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CROSS YOUR HEART.

When we were boys together, Bill, you
were my bosom friend;
We used to fish together up the creek,
around the bend.
And you and I were wont to tramp o'er
many a weary mile,
Armed with our trusty muskets, fifty
years behind the style.
You were a born romancer, Bill, and well
do I recall
How, when you told your yarns, I used to
greet you with this stall:
"Cross your heart,
Black and blue!
Show me, now,
That it's true!"

I recollect the readiness with which you
"crossed your heart,"
And told another story with the same
convincing art,
Of course, I could not doubt you after you
had stood the test
And traced the sign I asked for on your
sunburnt, blistered breast.
And thus you used to get away with
many a weird old tale—
One time you even made me think that
you had caught a whale!
"Cross your heart,
Black and blue!
Show me, now,
That it's true!"

Tonight I sit alone and conjure up those
happy hours
When you and I, barefooted lads, roamed
wild among the flowers,
And, looking back, I love to think I never
doubted you,
For under all your fancies beat a heart
courageous, true.
Both day and night I've seen that sight
—the boy—the cracking ice—
The cries for help—the brave response—
and you—you paid the price!
"Cross your heart,
Cold and still
Lay your hands—
Dear old Bill!"
—Milwaukee Sentinel.

CEDARS OF LEBANON.

This is the largest cedar of Lebanon in the United States. It was sent to Mr. Wickham in an envelope from a friend in the Holy Land. He planted it opposite his home between Bayside avenue

and Chestnut street, Flushing, L. I. It is about 100 years old. It is majestic and stands alone in the middle of a farm. It has beautiful color and has great attraction for artists.

BIRTH RATE OF WHITE RACE

The first royal commission on the birth rate ever formed in the British Empire has now been appointed in New South Wales, and has begun to hold sittings. The Australian birth rate was referred to in this column some months ago, says the London Chronicle, as an extreme instance of the general tendency, but it seems to be taken for granted that, in the present case, the deliberate intention of the people is the determining factor. It need hardly be said that France is in a similar plight, and that in all probability the proportion of white to other races on the earth is steadily falling year by year, despite the recent destruction of most aboriginal races by alcohol and tuberculosis. As a result of ten years' fall in New South Wales the birth rate is now just over twenty-five per thousand. This may be compared with the rate of fifty reached in an alien quarter of London not so long ago. The commission, which includes five medical men, is to furnish its report within three months, and is to refer to the difficulty experienced by young men in obtaining private employment, owing to the development of state Socialism.

RUSSIAN DISCIPLINE.

Discipline in the Russian army is confined to the essentials very strictly, and does not concern itself about things not immediately connected with the movements of troops and their conduct in action, according to O. K. Davis, in the December Everybody's. They will fight magnificently, but for the rest they are a lawless, unkempt, slouchy, dirty lot, whose clothes seem perpetually unwashed and whose hands are in everything that is not their own.

There were a dozen different breeds of fighting men in the Pekin relief column, and among all of them I saw instances of unprovoked cruelty and savagery. With the others such cases were sporadic, but among the Russians discipline does not seem to undertake to provide against that sort of thing. I never saw an officer make any attempt to stop a Russian soldier from such work, but I saw one spank a man for letting a horse fall down.

The officer who was in command of the guard that was escorting me on one occasion stopped his men to loot a shop and let me go on and find my way as best I could without them.

Griggs' Loss.

Briggs—Did Dick go into hysterics when his fingers were shot off?

Griggs—Oh, no; Dick is always practical. He merely said as he looked at his hand: "I can't measure my drinks any more; I shall have to guess at the number of fingers I take."—Boston Transcript.

Gen. Leonard Wood

Causes for the Attempt to Prevent His Promotion.

The matter of the nomination of Brigadier General Leonard Wood to be a major general has stirred up a vast deal more talk than its intrinsic merits demand, because of the widely-advertised opposition that is being made to it in the Senate. The nomination, as is always the case, was referred to the Senate committee on military affairs. It is before this committee that the fight is being waged, in the effort to have it report adversely on the promotion. The proceedings in the committee room are supposed to be secret; but a vast deal has been reported, chiefly emanating from those who are working to defeat Gen. Wood's advancement.

Leonard Wood was born in Winchester, N. H., October 9, 1860. He received an academic education, and graduated from Harvard Medical school in 1884. On January 5, 1886 he was appointed assistant surgeon in the regular army, with the rank of first lieutenant—the usual course. He was assigned to duty in the

GENERAL LEONARD WOOD

Southwest, and the same year was both a medical and line officer in the expedition against Geronimo. In this he displayed that astonishing ability for doing things which was so fully shown later; and so excellent were his services in that affair that he received a medal of honor for his effective work—not as a doctor, be it remembered, but as a line officer.

The law regarding army surgeons provides that each assistant surgeon shall rank as first lieutenant on entering the service, and shall be promoted to captain and surgeon after five years' service. Accordingly, in 1891, Wood received this promotion. He was stationed in Washington for some years, and it was there he became acqquainted with Major McKinley, then a Congressman from Ohio. He became the family physician and the future President became warmly attached to the young surgeon. Here also Wood became acquainted with Theodore Roosevelt, when the latter became assistant secretary of the navy. The two men were congenial in their tastes and aspirations, and a strong friendship grew up between them.

When war with Spain became a possibility, later growing into a probability, the two men discussed the subject, and both agreed that a volunteer cavalry organization, recruited from the fearless horsemen and dead shots of the Southwest, would be most effective in the coming contest in Cuba. Mr. Roosevelt presented the matter to President McKinley, and the latter agreed to have a regiment organized, if Mr. Roosevelt would take the colonelcy. The latter promptly declined, saying that Wood's experience of several years on the Indian frontier, with his remarkable abilities, fitted him exactly for the place; and that, if Wood was made colonel, he (Roosevelt) would be glad of the appointment as lieutenant colonel.

The President agreed; and the First United States Volunteer Cavalry, commonly known as the Rough Riders, was organized under Col. Wood, and participated in the Santiago campaign. For gallant services at Las Guasimas and San Juan hill, Col. Wood was promoted to brigadier general of volunteers on July 8, 1898, and on December 8 of the same year, he was made major general of volunteers. Both these promotions were made by President McKinley, because he believed Wood's services deserved them. Immediately after the surrender of Santiago, Wood was made military governor of the city. He showed such remarkable administrative talent that he was made military governor of the island of Cuba, on December 13, 1899, in place of Gen. Brooke, which post he filled in a most satisfactory manner until May 22, 1902, when the American occupation of the island terminated.

President McKinley, believing his splendid services deserved such recognition, appointed Gen. Wood a brigadier general in the regular army on February 4, 1901, which nomination the Senate promptly confirmed. Thus, from May, 1898, the Senate confirmed him colonel of volunteers, brigadier general of volunteers, major general of volunteers and brigadier general in the regular service, without objection, notwithstanding that the last appointment promoted him over the heads of a long line of regular army officers. On August 8, 1903, President Roosevelt appointed him major general, he being at the time the ranking brigadier, and the appointment to the vacant major-generalship being properly his, under the rule of seniority. It is this nomination which is now being opposed in the Senate.

The first reason alleged is, that Wood has been "jumped" over the heads of many older officers, of much longer service. If there is any weight to this objection, it should have been considered when he was appointed a brigadier general in 1901 by President McKinley. It was the latter who "jumped" him. McKinley knew that Wood accomplished astonishing results for Cuba as an administrator, and believed the best interests of the service demanded his promotion. It was not due to friendship, but to merit. President Roosevelt, in the pending promotion, did not "jump" Wood over any one's head, though many people mistakenly so believe.

The other reasons alleged against the promotion all hinge on the Cuban postal frauds. Major E. G. Rathbone was director of posts in Cuba under the American occupation. He was convicted of embezzlement of funds, and sentenced to imprisonment. Gen. Wood, as military governor, acting under the direct orders of Secretary of War Root, more than any one man, was accountable for the rigorous prosecution of the case. If it had not been for the amnesty granted to all American prisoners by President Palma, Rathbone would today be serving his sentence in a Cuban prison. Senator Hanna is a friend of Major Rathbone, and has taken up the latter's efforts to prevent Wood's confirmation. The charges brought by Rathbone of any serious import are:

The game of pelota is very popular among the Cubans. It is an athletic sport played in a large building, because of the tropical heat, which makes it impossible out of doors. It is essentially a game of athletic skill, in keeping a ball thrown against a wall, constantly rebounding between the wall and the player, without dropping to the ground. There is an athletic organization in Havana, called the Jai Alai, which has a building devoted to pelota. It is charged that this was really a gambling organization, that Gen. Wood granted a concession to the Jai Alai, which, it is alleged, should not have been given, and that he received a gift of silver plate from the members, which it is insinuated, was a bribe.

Secretary Root was the last witness before the senate committee previous to the holiday adjournment, and his testimony took the wind out of the charge by Rathbone. The Jai Alai is simply an athletic association. The Latin-Americans are fond of games of chance, and of betting; and they bet on a hotly contested game of pelota, as they do on a chicken-fight, or as spectators in America bet on a horse race, or a baseball game. The "concession" was simply a permit to build an addition to the building; the application was submitted by Gen. Wood to the war department, which directed him to allow it. The silver plate was a present from the business men of Havana, among whom were one or more members of the Jai Alai; Gen Wood also referred the question as to the propriety of his accepting the gift to the war department, which allowed him to do so.

The last charge is that Gen. Wood with others, planned an attack on Gen. Brooke's administration, for the purpose of having him removed and Wood promoted to his place. There is no substantial evidence in support of this, and it appears to be simply a creation of Rathbone's personal hatred and desire for revenge. Were President McKinley alive, he could very quickly show why he deemed it best for Cuba to remove Gen. Brooke, and promote Wood. After Secretary Root's testimony that in all the administrative acts brought in question he acted under the direct orders of the war department, the bottom has fallen out of the case against Wood, and there is no doubt the committee will report favorably on his nomination.

S. S. KNABENSHUE.

The idol of the late Camille Pissarc was his teacher, Corot, whom he placed even higher than Ingres.

PROSPERITY OF IOWA.

State First in the Land in Production of Oats, and Second in Corn and Hay.

"This is one of the biggest states in the whole world, I guess," said an Iowa farmer as he sat in a Northwestern line train speeding across that commonwealth through a succession of beautiful villages, prosperous cities and a smiling country of rich and rolling prairie farms. Sleek stock and well filled barns, waving corn and wide meadowlands made a car window panorama of typical Iowa scenery.

"We been pretty busy out here for a few years past, and we been making some money." He threw one knee over the other and proceeded with what for him was a long speech. "We been savin' some money, lendin' some more, and our debts ain't enough to worry us—not by a quite a consid'able."

What the old man said as the train rushed along is backed up by facts. The passenger department of the Chicago & Northwestern line is publishing statements from such people as Governor Cummin, ex-Congressman Perkins, of The Sioux City Journal, and others that bear out in full the enthusiasm of the old farmer.

Secretary Wilson, of the agricultural department, says of Iowa that the state will produce this year 221,000,000 bushels of corn, the second largest production in the United States; that it stands first in the production of oats and second in the production and acreage of hay (5,600,000 tons on 3,000,000 acres.

The total area under the principal crops in Iowa during the last year was nearly seventeen million acres, the total value of live stock on farms about $270,000,000," says the secretary, "and notwithstanding the somewhat poor season of last year, the farmers are everywhere in a prosperous condition."

The secretary's view of prosperity in his home state is echoed by Gov. Cummins.

"The percentage of the entire area of the state that can be profitably used for agricultural purposes," says the governor, "far exceeds that of any other state in the Union (nearly 30,000,000 acres), with a total value of soil products for the year estimated at $230,000,000, and live stock on farms estimated at $270,000,000. It necessarily follows that the people of the state are prosperous, happy and contented."

Lafayette Young, of The Daily Capitol, Des Moines, says:

"Iowa stands with a record of fifty years without a crop failure, culminating with a bountiful yield for 1903, with every one busy and preparing for another busy year in 1904.

"Bank deposits are strong. The people have invested liberally in enterprises outside of the state, and during the last five years have invested in more substantial improvements than during any previous period of three times that duration."

Ex-Congressman George D. Perkins, of The Sioux City Journal, says:

"In my judgment, the people of Iowa were never more prosperous than now. The year has put to the test the state's crop producing capacity, and our people are in better financial condition than ever before.

"The agricultural outlook was never brighter, the soil is in admirable condition for a bumper crop in 1904.

"I believe that what is true of Iowa is true of the neighboring states. South Dakota has had by far the most prosperous year in her history."

Mr. Perkins voices the comfortable feeling that is found throughout the west and northwest.

Railways such as the Chicago & Northwestern are giving the west splendid transportation service. The heavy trainloads of grain and live stock, of products of the forest and mine, bound for Chicago and the east, are being supplemented to a remarkable degree by the finished products of rapidly growing manufacturing interests that are springing up in the towns and cities of the northwest. This wealth bearing stream of products passes thousands of westbound homeseekers and colonists, trudging beside the slow moving ox team no longer, but traveling instead on low rate tickets on fast trains and in comfort for which western roads, such as the Northwestern line, are famed.

DOUBLE TREE.

Near Waynesville, O., stands this remarkable tree. It is a symmetrical coalescence of two blue ash trees, five feet apart at the ground and fifteen feet above, joining to form a perfect trunk, which extends to a height of some seventy feet.

Each tree is from fifteen to eighteen feet in circumference, and each trunk, as well as the bole, is perfectly normal. Nor does the fork show any signs of flattening, ridge or one-sided coalescence. Judging from these facts, the union must have taken place when the trees were saplings.

Possibly this is a "natural graft," or an Indian may have used the saplings as a part of his wigwam support and tied them so tightly as to produce the union. The blue ash is a tree of slow growth, and, considering the size of this one, it seems to antedate the white settlers in Ohio.

A Living Book Marker.

The mystery of life has rarely furnished the thinker with so strange a problem as that which arises out of a fact instanced by Mr. W. H. Hudson, the naturalist. Mr. Hudson had a piece of snake skin, which for years he used as a book marker. It changed color periodically and shed its scales. It continued to shed its scales in this fashion for ten years, each succeeding set of scales being smaller than the last. Some fairly recent books would make even a hoppopotamus hide book marker change color were it to find itself between their leaves. The sensitive book marker capable of blushing rose red or paling with emotion may, no doubt, be a feature in the literary life of the amazing future, and perhaps in the literary world. "Some Emotions of a Moral Book Marker" is a thinkable title when we consider the strides of modern thought."—London Outlook.

Each for His Own.

"Oh, John, John, my little boy is playing with your mowing machine!"

"He won't hurt it, ma'am! Don't you worry!"—Brooklyn Life.

The Whip Hand

A Tale of the Pine Country

By Samuel Merwin

Author of "The Road to Frontenac." Joint author of "Calumet K."

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CHAPTER IX—(Continued.)

Apples, still hurrying, still wanting breath, turned the corner, paused, looked up the street and down, seemed disappointed and irresolute, and finally turned his valise on end and sat on it. From where he sat in the shadow of a dark building he could see the flow of life along North Clark street, and he watched it nervously. He seemed somewhat oppressed by the rush and whirl of things, as if in mid-course of a tempestuous career he had paused to think. The soot-laden air was portentous tonight, the rattle and rumble of the street, the guffaws from the actors' saloon at his elbow, the roar and hurry of it all, bore heavily on his spirits as he sat watching there. For Apples was on the brink of something—something new and strange. Before him lay an unexplored country, and who could say if it should prove a land of roses or a black abyss. For better or worse it was to be, a plunge into the future, vastly unlike certain other plunges that he had been forced to take—alone. Circumstances had swept him on; the offer had come, bearing the guarantee that at last his name should appear on all posters in letters not shorter than three and one-half inches; the other one, whose face and voice had helped to make it all possible, was willing, with a fluttering heart, to keep her promise; the small boy with the wizened face, whose thin legs were to help make their joint fortunes, had jumped at the chance; and here he was on the brink. Henceforth the three Le Ducs, three, were to be a feature in the theatrical world. And the black sky, bearing oppressively down like an emblem of great grim Chicago, was portentous indeed.

At last a woman, with a small package under her jacket, slipped out from the crowd and came hesitatingly down the side street. Apples rose.

"Hello," he said.

"Hello."

"Got everything?"

"Yes, where's Jimmie?"

"He's waiting at the pier."

And so, without speaking further, these two young persons, who were about to take the plunge hand in hand, set out together toward the east. A block further on she said, with a show of petulance, "Have we got to take Jimmie along?"

"Yes, we'd have to come back here if we didn't. We've got to join the company Monday night, you know, at South Bend."

They crossed over the Rush street bridge and took the early steamer for St. Joseph. From now on they should have no difficulty. There was a reverend person in St. Joseph who was always glad to marry foolish young men and foolish young girls, for a consideration. And this reverend one, in the evening's rest after a day given to guiding his flock heavenward, could surely find a few moments in which to make these two one. They could be sure of finding discretion here, sure that no awkward questions would be asked, that no permission from unreasonable parents would be hinted at; sure, in brief, that the good divine would be entirely at their service, would wish them Godspeed on the up-road or the down-road or any conceivable road—for a consideration.

CHAPTER X—A SHUT DOWN.

The weeks were spinning by. Both sides were losing so heavily that the fight was becoming grim. On the one hand, Bigelow, with his unreasonable directors to keep in line, was closing in relentlessly on the Wauchung interests; on the other hand, Higginson & Company were holding on with an endurance that puzzled Mr. Bigelow.

And it was at this time, when affairs were leaping along toward a crisis, that Doctor Brown of Wauchung took a hand by ordering Mr. Higginson to bed. Nothing but a complete rest could save him from a breakdown, said the doctor—news which brought Mrs. Higginson down with nervous exhaustion, which set Mamie's wits a-fluttering, which complicated matters somewhat for Halloran. The longer Halloran studied the business the longer he poured over statements of profits and statements of losses that could not be brought together, the plainer became the facts. Ideas were floating in his head, ideas so nearly what he wanted that he knew it would only a question of time before he could catch one or the other of them and bring it down into the world of reality—ideas that were later to be brought to bear, perhaps, on Bigelow and his combination; but meanwhile his coast was clear. The logical next step was to shut down the mills.

He dared not think of all the details in connection with such a step, of what it would mean to Mr. Higginson, to the hundreds of men who had grown up in the work, or to what few other business interests there were in Wauchung; the mere consideration of the moral issue involved led into such a maze of pros and cons that he resolutely set it aside, and kept his mind fixed on the business facts. If the step were not taken, the heavy expense of maintenance would swamp Higginson & Company and everybody connected with them so deep that all the king's horses could not drag them out; by shutting down, on the other hand, he could prolong the fight. The trust would be free to continue selling at a loss; but Higginson & Company would be enabled to leave their timber growing in the forest until prices should reach normal again.

As Mr. Higginson's whole fortune was in the business, his income was now next to nothing; but Halloran believed he could hold out six months longer. On the other hand, he did not think Bigelow could last so long at the head of a losing venture. Indeed, if for one moment of those tense days he had lost his belief that Bigelow could be beaten, Halloran would have dropped out of this story on this page.

One evening Doctor Brown received a call from the manager.

"Now, Doctor," said Halloran, when they were seated in the office, "what can you tell me about Mr. Higginson? Is he better?"

The physician shook his head. "No—no better."

"You consider his case serious?"

"Yes."—gravely—"it is serious."

"I will tell you, doctor—for you must understand it before you can answer me—that the business is in a situation that demands his attention if he is able to give it—even for five minutes."

Doctor Brown shook his head again.

"Could I not lay a decision before him, doctor, if I make it as clear and simple as possible?"

"No; a decision would be the last thing to bother him with."

Halloran sat thinking. This was difficult—very difficult, indeed. Shutting down another man's mills without his knowledge was not the sort of thing he liked to do. The physician spoke again:

"His mind must have a rest, Mr. Halloran; that is the only way we can save him."

This was final, and Halloran went out to return to his room and pore again over accounts and statements, to think again of Bigelow, to grope again for those ideas that seemed so nearly what he wanted. For another week he watched the expense account mounting up; then one day he sent for Crosman to come to his office.

"Mr. Crosman," he said, "the mills will shut down Saturday night. Will you please see that the men are notified?"

Crosman looked at Halloran for a moment to make sure that he understood; then with a puzzled expression he left the room. Later in the day he met Halloran in the yard.

"Am I——. Do you want me to leave Saturday?" he asked, his voice full of emotion.

"No," the manager replied shortly, "you stay; I want you."

That evening Halloran was at work in his room when Crosman came in.

"I just happened around at Higginson's" he said evidently somewhat embarrassed "and Mamie said that her father wants to see you."

"When—now?"

"Yes, I believe so."

Halloran pushed aside his work with a thoughtful face. Presently he said:

"If you are going back that way, I'll walk along with you."

The door was opened by Mamie herself.

"Oh, Mr. Halloran," she cried, "I don't know what to say. Father isn't well at all—he's so nervous and excitable. Doctor Brown told me this morning not to let him see you at all, but he says he must see you—he made me send Harry as soon as he got here. I haven't known what to do."

Harry heard her through, then he went directly up-stairs. Mr. Higginson's room was dimply lighted, and it was a moment before his eyes could distinguish clearely; but when he finally made out the thin figure propped up on the bed he was shocked at the change the sickness had wrought.

"Sit down," Mr. Higginson was saying. "Tell me what this means." His voice was tremulous with feeling. "What is this they have been telling me about closing the mills?"

"It is true. I have arranged to shut down Saturday night."

"True, is it?" The lean old figure stirred on its pillow; the thin fingers closed tightly on a fold of the bed clothes. "Do you know what you are saying, man?"

"We can't afford to pay men for doing nothing, Mr. Higginson."

"Do you realize what this means?" The old man raised himself on his elbow; he found it difficult to control his voice. "Do you know that I brought those men here, that I have supported some of them for thirty years? Do you think they can be cast off to starve? Why didn't you come to me with this? What do you mean by settling it out of hand?"

"I haven't been allowed to see you."

"Not been allowed! Is this a conspiracy? There's some meaning to this, Halloran. I insist upon knowing it. Do you mean that I have got to the end? Have we lost?" The last few words were spoken with a sudden return to calmness, but his eyes were shining.

"No, not at all. I think we shall win."

"You think!—for God's sake, Halloran, speak out and have it over with. What's the matter—what has happened?"

Halloran came over and sat on the edge of the bed where he could talk in a quiet voice.

"We have not lost, Mr. Higginson, and what's more, we aren't going to lose. Bigelow's people have got to keep on selling below cost until something happens. We certainly couldn't go on running full-handed without a cent of income. By shutting down we can hold out longer than they can. It's hard on the men, but it is hard on the rest of us, too. It's the only way we can meet them."

Even a sick man could see the soundness of this. And somehow the presence of his manager, with his air of health and confidence, went a long ways toward restoring, for the moment, the balance of Mr. Higginson's mind. He fell back on the pillows, unstrung after his excitement, but somewhat relieved.

Halloran said good-night and went downstairs. Mamie heard his step and, leaving Crosman in the sitting-room, she met him in the hall.

"I meant to tell you not to come down yet," she said with lowered eyes. "Ma said that she wanted to see you when you came in. I'll go ahead if you don't mind."

He followed her to another upstairs room, where he found Mrs. Higginson on a couch, dressed in the daintiest of lace-trimmed dressing-sacks. She looked up when he entered and motioned wearily to a chair.

"It is kind of you to come," she said. "Mamie, dear, won't you get me my heavy shawl?"

Mamie, understanding, left the room and did not hurry back.

"I want to talk with you about our dear girl," began Mrs. Higginson. "Of course, if the worst should happen—you understand——" Here her emotion overcame her for a moment. "You can understand what a shock it has been to me. Mr. H. had not told me of the trouble, and the news that he had failed came like a thunderbolt. I don't mind for myself—but if anything should happen—if the worst—I could go so much—so much easier—if I knew that Mamie was provided for. You will be good to her, John? You will forgive me for calling you John? It is the way Mr. H. always spoke of you at home——" She was obliged to pause again. "I am afraid he will never c—call you John again."

Her handkerchief went up to her eyes; and Halloran sat back and looked hard at a picture of the first Higginson mill, in oils, that hung over the mantel.

"I suppose we shall have to sell the house," she went on, rallying. "You will know best about that, John. I am sure you will act for the best, and save what you can for our little girl. You will be good to her—I am sure you will. She has learned to admire you very much. And when we are—when we are no longer—and the house is gone——"

"Nothing of that sort will be necessary," broke in Halolran, glad to relieve her mind and the gloom at the same time. "The house needn't be sold. I think we shall have the mills running again before so very long."

He saw, as he spoke, that his words struck a discordant note. She looked at him incredulously.

"It isn't so bad as it sounds——" He meant to make it better, but, failing, stopped.

"Do you mean that we have been given this shock for nothing?" she asked, with returning strength.

The only way out was retreat. He rose, saying, "I hope to have good news for you soon," and bowed a good-night.

He found Mamie sitting on the stairs in the dark with the shawl across her lap. She got up with a little sob and stood back against the rail for him to pass.

"Cheer up, Miss Higginson," he said in a low voice. "It isn't a failure at all. We are getting on as well as we could expect."

She put both hands on the railing to steady herself and looked up at him in amazement.

"You dont' mean that," she whispered, "what you said?"

He nodded. "You needn't bother about it at all. Everything is all right."

She still doubted. "But the mills?"

"The mills will be running soon."

"Oh, really?" she said, almost wonderingly. "Really?"

The sobs were coming again. She caught his hand in both of hers and held it tightly. "Then there isn't any failure —and you are going to save our home for us?"

This was frying-pan to fire. Halloran answered hastily:

"It won't be necessary to save it. We shall be all right again soon."

His matter-of-fact tone brought her to herself. She released his hand and, suddenly plunged into confusion, hurried upstairs.

On his way out Halloran paused in the hall. Through the wide doorway he could see Crosman, out in the sitting-room, striding around with his hands in his pockets.

"Good night, Crosman," he ventured.

But the other would not hear him; and Halloran, feeling as if he had been put through a wringer, went out.

CHAPTER 11:—HALLORAN GOES TO CHICAGO.

The next morning—it chanced to be a Friday—Crosman came over to Halloran's desk.

"Have you a couple of minutes?" he asked.

"Surely. More than I want. Sit down."

Crosman did not take the offered chair, but leaned on the desk.

"Miss Higginson spoke to me last night," he said, with visible effort, "about the family expenses. She thinks they ought to reduce them all around, but you, she says, are the only one that knows about it. I suggested that she talk it over with you herself; but she didn't want to, for some reason."

Halloran swung back in his chair.

"I don't know how well you understand this business, Crosman. It simply amounts to this: The combine people are selling lumber below cost to run us out of business, but we have shut down to let them go ahead until they're sick of it. When the price rises we'll start up again. Of course all this makes a big difference in Mr. Higginson's in ome. I suppose there's no use trying to make that plain to women, but if you can do anything to clear the air you'd better go talk to them. Anyhow, don't let them make any difference in their living. We mustn't do anything that will scare people; the Higginson credit is good, and it's our business to keep it good."

He meditated a moment and then looked up and said abruptly:

"Look here, Crosman, you can do me a favor if you want to. Mr. Higginson's sickness seems to have left me in charge of his family finances. Now suppose you take the whole business off my hands. You know both Mrs. Higginson and Miss Higginson better than I do; and I think it would be a good deal easier for them to talk things over with you than with me. You can let me know if anything special comes up and I'll help you work it out. How does that strike you?"

"All right," he managed finally to get out. "I'll try it."

"I don't believe this giving away lumber can last much longer," said Halloran.

Something about those phrases that had been floating in Halloran's mind for weeks, "giving away lumber," "selling at a loss," "selling to our customers," stuck in his thoughts now. He sat there, leaning back in his swivel-chair gazing at the rows of pigeon-holes—Crosman still leaning on the desk—while his mind sailed off to Pewaukee; he saw again the great yards of the Bigelow Company crowded full of lumber—the mills droning ceaselessly, the scores of men swarming over the work, the steamer hurrying the cargo—and he thought again "all this is to be sold below cost to our customers."

Then Halloran's chair came down with a bang and his open hand slapped the desk. He had got it. The idea that had evaded him all these weeks was finally run to cover, was bagged securely. And the simplicity of it all, the feeling of utter imbecility in having failed to see it before, left him limp. But he recovered.

"Crosman," he said, "I'm going to Chicago tonight and may not get back before the first of the week. You look out for things here, will you?"

The assistant was growing hardened to surprises. He merely nodded now, with a curious expression.

Halloran had got it. And for a moment he could only say to himself, over and over: "What a fool! What a fool!" He could only think of that tremendous cut-out of lumber thrown on the market for a song. "Selling to our customers, eh," he thought: "selling to our customers!"

"Crosman," he said, when he felt that he was on his legs again, "we're going to buy lumber."

Crosman did not grasp it at first.

"We're going to buy lumber—all we can get," Halloran repeated; "and I'm going down to get the money."

It was sinking into Crosman's head—slowly he was gripping it, this idea of Halloran's. Higginson & Company were going to buy lumber, were going to buy it below cost—great quantities of it—to buy it secretly, in many places, under many names, at half the normal price; they would sell it later at or above normal. Then at last Crosman looked at Halloran and grinned—broadly, happily. And Halloran said to himself again: "What a fool! Oh, what a fool!"

There was much to be done that day. Crosman must have full instructions for prompt action; the moment Halloran's message should come up from Chicago he must cross the lake to Milwaukee, and from there command the Wisconsin shore. Halloran himself would set the Chicago end of the line in motion. Scattered here and there around the lake were men who had occasionally handled business for Higginson & Company. These were to be retained, wherever posible, and set to buying in Trust lumber. Everything must be done secretly; every opportunity must be seized. There would be storage to arrange for in a dozen cities, and insurance; there were a score and odd contingencies to be foreseen and provided against, a maximum price to be agreed on for each necessary step. But the figuring and the talking had an end; and when Halloran finally jumped on the night train and was rolled off toward Chicago he felt that Bigelow's flank was as good as turned.

There was one bank in Chicago with which Mr. Higginson had been doing business for twenty years. Thither Halloran went, shook hands with the cashier and laid bare the situation. The cashier already knew a good deal about the fight, and was interested to fill up the gaps in his information.

"What is it you plan to do, Mr. Halloran?" he asked when they had talked over the situation.

"We are going to buy lumber."

The cashier inclined his head to show that he understood perfectly.

"We can buy it now for one or two dollars less than it costs us to get it out of our own woods," Halloran added.

This interested the cashier very much indeed. Higginson & Company were good, all the way through; and their manager seemed to have a keen business sense. Mr. Higginson's sickness entered his calculations; but still the investment was sound. The amount must be discussed and one or two details mentioned. But it was after a very few minutes of talk that the cashier said:

"We shall be very glad to let you have the money, Mr. Halloran."

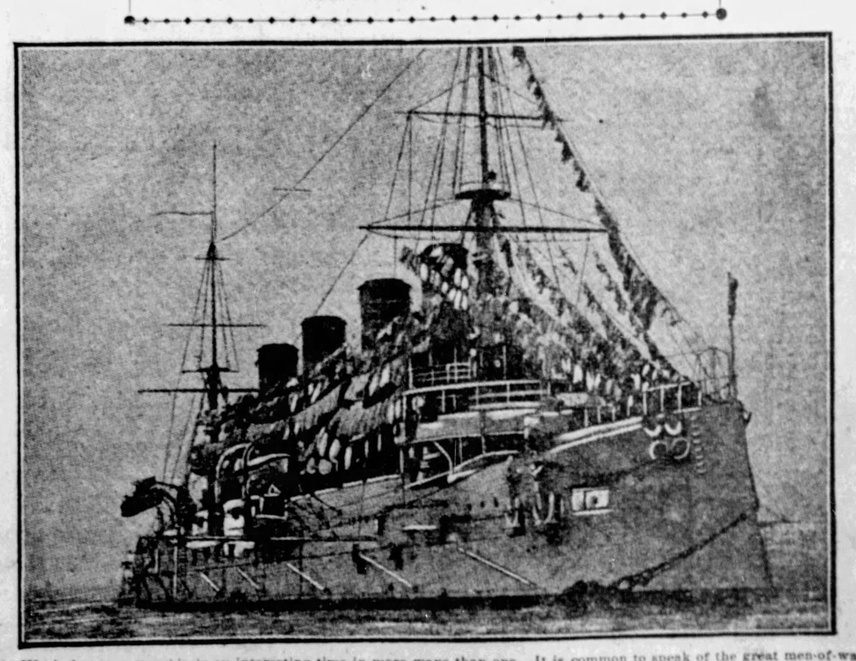
The arrangements were soon made. Then Halloran said good-morning and went down to the telegraph office in the basement of the building. And as this short message hummed over the wires to Crosman, "Go ahead. Halloran," he walked out into the street to begin the battle. All idleness was over now for Halloran—all merely defensive work, all waiting for results. From now on it was to be straight-out fighting; and he knew that the best man would win.

Before that Saturday afternoon was far advanced Halloran's agents were at work. Their instructions were simple. "Buy all the one-inch and two-inch stuff you can get, pine and hemlock, in regular lengths and widths," was what he had said, in starting them out; and before

USEFUL DOG TRACTION.

Toodles is the horse, Binkie the passenger. Toodles doesn't like being a horse much, though; it is so humiliating to be tied up to a cart, and especially so if you have to pull about another dog you know you can whip if you can only get the chance. Toodles looks peaceful enough, and he is gentle and affectionate with his human friends. The dogs are the playmates of a little New York boy. Binkie is a very lively passenger, and most things in life are full of interest and excitement for him. He wants to be in everything that goes on. He and Toodles are not exactly friends, merely acquaintances, and I would not trust them alone together very long for fear that one or the other would insist upon settling the question of which was the better fighter. Toodles is well on in years, dignified, fat and indifferent; Binkie young, slim and always ready for play. They are both very self-contained and vain.

WASH DAY AT SEA.



Wash day on a warship is an interesting time in more ways than one. It is common to speak of the great men-of-war as anthills for activity, but the size of the crews is never so patent as on wash days. The accompanying illustration shows one of the warships of the Russian navy with this peculiar decoration. Only about one-half of the clothes actually drying are shown in the picture.

DO YOU GET UP WITH A LAME BACK?

Have You Rheumatism, Kidney, Liver or Bladder Trouble?

To Prove what SWAMP-ROOT, the Great Kidney, Liver and Bladder Remedy, will do for YOU, all our Readers May Have a Sample Bottle Sent Free by Mail.

Pain or dull ache in the back is unmistakable evidence of kidney trouble. It is Nature's timely warning to show you that the track of health is not clear.

If these danger signals are unheeded, more serious results are sure to follow; Bright's disease, which is the worst form of kidney trouble, may steal upon you.

The mild and the extraordinary effect of the world-famous kidney and bladder remedy, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, is soon realized. It stands the highest for its wonderful cures of the most distressing cases. A trial will convince anyone—and you may have a sample bottle free, by mail.

Gentlemen—I attribute my present good health to Swamp-Root. I suffered many years with kidney trouble and had an almost constant pain in my back. Your great remedy, Swamp-Root, cured my trouble, and I have since been perfectly well.

Yours truly,

B. H. Chalker, Chief of Police.

Ozark, Ala.

Lame back is only one symptom of kidney trouble—one of many. Other symptoms showing that you need Swamp-Root are, being obliged to pass water often during the day and to get up many times during the night, inability to hold your urine, smarting or irritation in passing, brick-dust or sediment in the urine, catarrh of the bladder, uric acid, constant headache, dizziness, sleeplessness, nervousness, irregular heart-beating, rheumatism, bloating, irritability, worn-out feeling, lack of ambition, loss of flesh, sallow complexion.

If your water when allowed to remain undisturbed in a glass or bottle for twenty-four hours, forms a sediment or settling, or has a cloudy appearance, it is evidence that your kidneys and bladder need immediate attention.

In taking Swamp-Root you afford natural help to Nature, for Swamp-Root is the most perfect healer and gentle aid to the kidneys that is known to medical science.

Swamp-Root is the great discovery of Dr. Kilmer, the eminent kidney and bladder specialist. Hospitals use it with wonderful success in both slight and severe cases. Doctors recommend it to their patients and use it in their own families, because they recognize in Swamp-Root the greatest and most successful remedy for any derangement of the kidney, liver and bladder.

You may have a sample bottle of this wonderful remedy, Swamp-Root, sent absolutely free by mail, also a book telling all about Swamp-Root, and containing many of the thousands upon thousands of testimonial letters received from men and women cured. In writing to Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure to say that you read this generous offer in the Toledo Weekly Blade.

If you are already convinced that Swamp-Root is what you need, you can purchase the regular fifty-cent and one-dollar size bottles at drug stores everywhere. Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root, Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

evening orders had been placed in Chicago alone for nearly a million feet. The work would be pushed still further on Monday and Tuesday. Every company in the "combine" would be given an opportunity to sell heavily.

Farther up Lake Michigan Crosman was working with equal energy. It was a chance for Crosman, an opportunity to show his mettle, and he realized it. There had been some pulling at odds in the office, and the assistant had perhaps been inclined to misunderstand Halloran in more ways than one; but all that was now swept away, and the enthusiasm or vigorous work was in him. For the first time since the fight began he fully understood it: he had been made to see that there was a possibility of winning. And when Halloran's message reached him that morning and he realized that no regular steamer would cross the lake before evening, he hurried a tug into commission, and with Captain Craig and MacGregor to get him over he made the passage to Milwaukee in less than seven hours. Late as it was when he arrived, he not only organized the work for Monday, but succeeded in placing the first few orders.

And so it fell out that the reduction in price, made solely to ruin Higginson, was suddenly and unexpectedly turned to his advantage. The busy companies that were scattered about the northern shores of the lake did not know this yet—did not dream that they were crowding extra shifts of men into their mills to help out Higginson, that the logs floating down a score of rivers in both peninsulas were to be cut for Higginson, that the steamers loading at a score of wharves were running for Higginson, that the long list of lake towns from which had arisen the heavy demand for lumber were buying for Higginson. They did not know these things, and Halloran did not mean that they should know them.

Perhaps it was the knowledge of all this, and the natural elation after such a day's work, that between them took Halloran's actions out of his own hands that Saturday evening. There were times when he was likely to surprise himself; this seemed to be one of them. During these past three years he had been in Chicago a number of times, but always only to transact his business and go directly back to Wauchung, always heeding that stubborn quality somewhere within him that had so much to do with pulling him up from nothing and pushing him on into the world, that had kept him out of foolishness on at least one occasion. He had managed, until now, to side with the stubborn quality against a certain impulse that had occasionally given him trouble, but tonight the impulse caught him off his guard. There were a good many things he might have done—there were even one or two details of the fight still to be studied out—but the impulse, once securely planted in authority, swept aside every other thought. And so, after dinner, Halloran caught a train for Evanston.

An odd feeling took possession of him when he found himself once more, after three years, on the scene of his struggle. It did not seem so long ago. That he had greatly changed he knew; since the days of furnace-tending, and study, and work as a surfman, and all the other interests that had crowded those earlier years, he had thrown himself out into the world. He had come to know something of the joy of directing men and events, of playing a positive part in the life about him. He had come to love the fighting, to love the play of fact upon fact and mind upon mind. During the last year he had begun to understand the feeling of the trained swimmer when he plunges into deep water. There was the exhilaration, not only of keeping afloat where weak men sink, but of laying a course and following it, sure of his strength and endurance. While this change was taking place in him he had been inclined to forget that these three years were, after all, but a ninth or tenth part of his life so far, and that the other nine-tenths were also a fact. But tonight, as he walked up toward the Ridge where the big houses stood, he felt that he was taking up his old life where he had laid it down that day when he took the boat for Wauchung. And somehow he was not so sure of himself as he had been when he said good-morning to the cashier.

He was almost relieved to find that Miss Davis and her mother had stepped across the way. They would be back soon, he was told; so he went in, left his hat and coat in the hall, and walked in through the parlor to the long sitting room, where there were rows upon rows of books and a round-edged table covered with other books and with magazines, and a great fireplace with a wood fire burning—a take-the-edge-off-the-evening fire. He sat down in the Morris chair by the table and picked up a book—he had not had time to read much of late years. But after a moment of turning the pages the book was lowered to his knee, and his eyes looked over it at the fire. There had been a time when he had laid that fire regularly every morning, and now to be sitting here, suddenly conscious that his life had taken a new direction, that he was older, and that his clothes were better—that he was, in fact, another person altogether—was odd and haunting, was almost disconcerting.

He heard the front door open. There was a rustle out in the hall, and voices. He let his head fall against the back of his chair and turned his face toward the parlor door. He hardly knew what to make of himself; he was almost afraid he had emotions. Certainly a peculiar disturbance was going on somewhere within him, such a disturbance as hardly could be looked for within the manager of a lumber company. He did not like it at all. He wondered why she was so long about coming in. Perhaps she would go on upstairs, not knowing he was there; and that would be awkward. Altogether it was probably a good thing that Halloran had come out to Evanston before the new life had succeeded in withdrawing him finally from the old, before the proportion of one-tenth to nine-tenths had been reversed up and he had wholly embraced into Michigan lumber—a very good thing indeed.

She came in through the hall doorway and paused surprised. He felt himself rising and standing with his back to the table and the light. She came slowly forward, inclining her head a little to get the light out of her eyes so that she could see his face. The disturbance, now increasing in that strange new part of him, out of all proportion to the occasion, called his attention to her reserve, to the something—was it pride?—that had disturbed him in other days; it taunted him with her firm carriage, her fine, thoughtful face; it reminded him of her real superiority, the superiority that comes only from pride in right living; and so Halloran, the vigorous, the elated, at the moment of greeting an old friend in her own house, was so far from equal to the situation that for the life of him he could think of nothing but certain raw facts in his own hunting-up, or fighting-up, whichever it might be called. And not a word did he say—simply waited.

She came a few steps nearer and hesitated. Then, after an instant, her whole expression changed. Her eyes lighted up with gladness so real that even he could not misread it; and she came rapidly forward with outstretched hand.

"Why, John Halloran," she cried; "where did you come from?"

(To Be Continued.)

From Milwaukee.

A girl from the town of Milwaukee,
When waltzing was thoroughly gaukee,
But in gossip she'd shine—
For that was her line—
Her long suit was just taulkee-taulkee!
—Cincinnati Times-Star.

RARE OLD GEOGRAPHY

Marshfield, Ind., Man Has One Which Was Published in 1817.

Postmaster H. P. Layton, of Marshfield, Ind., has one of the largest libraries in Indiana, and among his books he has some rare and quaint volumes. Among them is a geography which was published before Illinois was admitted as a state, in 1818. In speaking of the volume today, Mr. Layton said he had seen by the press that the educational exhibit of the state of Connecticut would have at the World's Fair at St. Louis the oldest geography in the country, published in 1820. He said that this is a mistake, and produced a leather-bound book, tinted with age, with 288 pages. The title page and a part of the introduction is torn from the book. The book is three years older than the one found in Connecticut.

In the text it bounds the United States "on the north to Canada and the lakes, east by New Brunswick and the Atlantic ocean, south by the Floridas and the gulf of Mexico, and west by the Sabine river and the western limits of the Missouri territory, which are not yet defined."

Illinois is given as a territory, as it was not admitted until 1818. In a footnote regarding the breadth of the United States, it says: "The extent of the United States to the westward is not yet known," but gives it 1,400 miles.

In page 37 Louisiana is described as follows: "This country was originally purchased of France by the United States in 1803 for $15,000,000. It then embraced an immense tract of country west of the Pearl and Mississippi rivers. Its northern and western limits were not accurately ascertained. Out of this tract of country since has been formed the state of Louisiana. The rest is denominated the Missouri territory."

It describes the state of Louisiana thus: "Bounded north by the Missouri territory, east by the Mississippi and the Gulf of Mexico, and west by the Sabine river, which separates it from New Mexico."

On page 44 is Missouri territory description: "This tract," it says, "was included in that purchased by the United States under the name of Louisiana. Its limits are not ascertained. Its northern boundary is supposed to run in a line from the lake of the Woods to Hawesbury harbor, on the Pacific ocean. It is bounded east by the Mississippi river, south by the state of Louisiana and New Mexico, and west by the Pacific ocean."

The description of Indiana is very brief. It says:

"Bounded north by Michigan territory, east by Ohio, south by Kentucky and west by Illinois territory. Rivers, the most considerable are the Wabash and the White rivers. Towns, the principal are Vincennes, Harrison (now Terre Haute), and Wabash, all small.

"In this state have been found the bones of the mammoth."

When this book was published Florida yet belonged to Spain. Alabama was yet a territory; there were only a few states.—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

WATER FOR THE STOMACH

Copious Draughts Are Useful to Cleanse System.

The habits of people in general do not seem so bad when one considers the average individual's limitations as to knowledge and thought, say a writer in Health. The fact is that most people don't know, don't think, and hence don't care. Let them read more science, think more sensibly and act more seriously, then their habits will be more satisfactory.

The alimentary receptacle—the stomach or vat in which foods and liquids are received and mixed—is habitually converted by many persons into a chemical retort of all sorts of drugs and remedies, with the view of reaching and relieving the ills of the various organs of the body, from dandruff to corns. The writer believes that he can give no more and better reasons for his confidence in the therapeutic value of remedies than most other physicians, but he wishes to emphasize here the transcendent element of common sense in their administration.

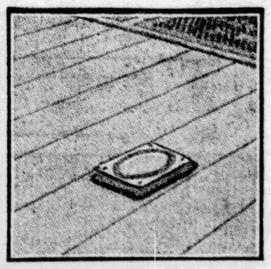
Before and above all things, however, what is wanted is a clean gastro-intestinal canal, and his claim is that water, properly used, is the best agent to effect that cleansing. On a par with this canal in importance are the eliminative tissues and organs of the system, the kidneys, the mucous membrane and skin. What therapeutic agent, properly used, is better than water? After all the assimilative and eliminative organs and tissues have been thoroughly cleansed with pure, soft water, then, if it be still necessary to administer a chemical agent, one may be selected that will, with these organs and tissues in better condition, work wonders. If you are so foolish as to allow yourself to become foul from head to foot cleanse yourself with water before resorting to chemical aids.

A GUARANTEED CURE FOR PILES.

Itching, Blind, Bleeding or Protruding Piles. Your druggist will refund money if PAZO OINTMENT fails to cure you in 6 to 14 days. 50 cents.

WHERE NELSON FELL.

On the deck of H. M. S. Victory, the old ship which did such gallant work at Trafalgar, is a small tablet marking the spot where Nelson fell. On Trafalgar day many hero-worshipers visit the various places where relics of the great admiral are kept. No spot receives more attention than the old Victory. Her



majesty the queen went there once with Prince Albert, on Trafalgar day, and after silently reading the small tablet, while all around stood with uncovered heads, she stooped and gathered two leaves from a wreath placed there in honor of the day, and carried them away as mementoes of the occasion. On the steering wheel of this same ship is inscribed the immortal signal: "England expects every man to do his duty."

An Unpleasant Thought.

I cannot bear to think upon
The fact that winter's coming on.
I love to coast and hitch and slide,
But there are other things beside:
The dentist, dancing school and sums
Begin when chilly weather comes.
But worse than all, I cannot bear
To put on wintry underwear.
I love the cold, I love the snow,
But woollen things do itch me so.
—From "Rhymes of Real Children," by Betty Sage.

More Serious.

Maid—There's a man at the door, mum, an' ——

Mrs. Bluff (entertaining several ladies)—But I told you to say I was not at home to any other callers.

Maid—Oi told him that, mum, but he says he's not a caller, but a collector, mum, an' he won't go 'way.—Philadelphia Press.

FENCE! STRONGEST MADE. Bull Strong, Chicken-Tight. Sold to the Farmer at Wholesale Prices. Fully Warranted. Catalog Free. COILED SPRING FENCE CO. Box 216 Winchester, Indiana, U. S. A.

"HANKERING."

ELIZABETH AYRES

Monologue. Aunt Flora speaking:

Oh, land yes, I know how you feel. Your hankerin,' kind o' hankerin' to do somethin' that feels like celebratin'. Holidays is kind o' remindin', especially when you get along to where your hair's greyed off some an' you've had more in the past than you think you're goin' to get in the future But don't dwell. I never was one to dwell on things. What's the use when they're over with and done? An' I never was one to get into a stew about the future either. Folks that do that don't know anythin' about livin.'

Want to do somethin' you don't know what? Yes, I expect you do. That's because you're young and can't be satisfied unless you get up an' cavoort occasionally, specially at lightin' time. I expect you're hankerin' to be real gay, an' feelin' it because you couldn't get home to your folks for the holidays. You're city raised, an' teachin' a country school in the winter isn't exactly like an evenin' dancin' party. But land, time does fly so, an' most before you can say scat, it'll be tomorrow, an' you so busy you won't know you was hankerin' today.

So long as you didn't have anythin' gayer to do, I'm real glad you came to see me. I've had considerable company since mornin', an' I've said "happer New Year" till I'm pretty certain its goin' to be a happy one when all's said an' done.

That's right, lay off your things an' we'll have a cup of tea as soon as I get through tellin' a story your hankerin' so to do somethin' to have a good time, has reminded me of. My, but that's a becomin' hat you're wearin'! I wonder if you feel as pretty as you look?

I think if the truth was known, most folks hanker for things it don't seem meant for them to have. She that was Melissy Tomkins was that way, though no one suspicioned it of her till it come out when she wasn't meanin' to have it. Melissy was a real pretty girl, but she stayed single so long after all her mates was married and settled, she got the name of bein' an old maid. Her bein' so quiet and staid helped along that idea. This never was much of a place for lively doin's, though, and as for carl playing or dancing—if anyone had spoke of such a thing, much less done it, the whole village would have thought they were burnin' brands to be squenched instanter.

Melissy was slim and fair-skinned, and when she was turned thirty, she looked just about as she did in her teens. She'd always behaved so proper when her pa and ma was alive, no one thought it was strange for her to live alone in the house that she heired after they was dead. They left her comfortably fixed, an' she kep' right on in the old place an' had a hired man to come in days to do the heavy chores.

There was considerable talk about that hired man. No one knew where he came from an' he kep' his affairs to himself. He certainly was well-favored, an' a great hand to play the fiddle. He spoke different from what we were used to hearin'. Afterward it come out he'd been raised west an' was some kind of a foreigner. I always thought him an' Melissy looked well together, he bein' so dark-skinned an' she so fair. He was some younger than her but no one thought of couplin' them together.

He'd had trouble too, losing property, an' had come east to get rested from it. He wasn't what you'd call real poor, but he heard Melissy wanted a hired man, so he took the job to pass the time away. How he happened to come to our town, I don't know to this day. They got on real well together, which was surprisin' considerin' Melissy had always been so retirin' and calm where men folks was concerned. You see Melissy lived next door to me an' we went back an' forth considerable. I thought I knew Melissy inside out but she had feelin's I never suspicioned.

If it hadn't been for Lewis Peter, what happened might never have took place. He was the worst kind of a pester—a man gossip. I don't know as he could be much blamed, since, from the time he was in breeches, his ma and grown-up sisters had sent him out snoopin' so they could know what was goin' on. He was the one that started the talk about Melissy an' the hired man. He hinted there was goin's-on up to her house that oughtn't to be allowed.

Me livin' so near, an' she bein' an orphan, we was more to each other than neighbors. I knew that occasionally Julian—that was the hired man—went to Melissy's with his fiddle in the evenin' and played while she sewed, till his fiddlin' made her drop her work an' she'd sit with the pink color comin' an' goin' in her cheeks, an' her eyes shinin' like blue stars. I heard him often myself—an' he certainly could play! He'd lay his fiddle on his shoulder an' cuddle it under his chin as if he loved it most to death, an' make it sing music like the angels playin' on heavenly harps.

I knew there warn't no goin's-on to Melissy's, but the talk spread spraddled around, till the town got all excited up over what wasn't true. Melissy never heard a word, an' it wasn't for me to tell her. I stood up for her, just as I always stand up an' never lay down for anybody that's gettin' what they haven't earned, but land, what can one woman do when scand'lous tongues get to clatterin'! Things come to such a pass I kep' close watch on Melisy's house, an' one night I ketched the weasel.

It was New Year's night. Melissy an' me had had our dinner together at noon. I noticed she was sort of uneasy all day. Couldn't seem to sit still, an' once she said, "Oh, Aunt Flora, I would like so much to have a real gay time, just for once in my life." It surprised me, comin' from her, but I see she was hankerin'. She seemed to calm down an' went home about tea time, after me promisin' to come over in the evenin'. Well, I kep' my promise, but instead of goin' 'round by the road, I ran across the yard an' scrooched through the fence. Soon's I got near to the house, I heard somethin' rustlin' under the lilac bush growin' by Melissy's parlor window. It come to me right off it was that Lewis Peter a-peekin'. I was just as mad as I was goin' to be, but I kep' still an' pecked too. I must say I never saw a prettier sight. Julian was there, dark an' handsome, an' fiddlin' like all get out, an' Melissy was dancin' 'round and 'round the room, as light on her feet as a piece of thistledown floatin' over the meadows in the summer time. Her eyes was shinin', an' her cheeks was so red I thought they'd set her hair afire. I don't know where she learned the steps she was takin', but she floated 'round like she was sailin' on wings. An' Julian, while he played, was watchin' her with a look in his eyes that let out somethin' I'd suspicioned for more'n a spell.

I got 'round to the back door as still as I could an' went into the kitchen. "Julian," I says, keepin' out of sight, "there's a weasel under the parlor window a-peekin'. Go an' hist him off the premises."

Julian didn't need a second warnin'. He was out of the front door quicker'n scat, an' from the squealin' we heard, there wasn't no question but what he was histin' the weasel.

Well, it all come out then. Melissy broke down an' cried. Then she told me that she'd always been hankerin' an' yearnin' for music an' dancin', an' it had come on her so hard that night, her feet had felt like feathers an' she couldn't keep 'em steady.

"Land, child," says I, "where's the harm? Maybe you'll feel better now."

. . . . . .

No, that wasn't the end. When Julian came back, he walked straight up to Melissy, an' before I could say boo to a goose, he had her in his arms a-cuddlin' her like he did his fiddle. I went into the kitchen. Yes, they was married. Julian proved to me that he was what he should be. Melissy didn't need any proof. The weddin' was the next week.

My land, how late it is! New Year's is almost over, but there's another day tomorrow. You don't feel so restless now? Of course you don't. There's nothin' like settin' your mind on somethin' else when you get to hankerin'. Let's have a cup of tea.

An Inducement.

Mrs. Bluff—Why don't you get married, Miss Cayenne?

Miss Cayenne—I'm afraid I'd have to support a husband.

Mrs. Bluff—Oh, I'm sure you could get one to support you.—Philadelphia Press.

CHAMPION JUMPING DOG.

Champion high diver of the west is Joker, a small fox terrier dog belonging to truck No. 2, of Portland, Ore. The favorite pastime of this remarkable canine consists in leaping from the roof of the fire house to the street, a distance of 35 feet. Of course, Joker does not land on the hard asphalt pavement, for a blanket is held out by his admiring friends to catch him as he makes the jump.

As soon as the little dog sees the firemen make for the street, blanket in hand, he begins to bark and grow so excited that it is hard to keep him from bounding to the roof and leaping off before the men are prepared for the circus feat. He runs back and forth across the top of the building until the signal is given below, when up in the air he goes, and down straight into the outstretched blanket.

"I enjoyed good health until about two years ago when I noticed my back began to ache frequently, it became sore and lame, and headache soon added to my misery; also found that my general health diminished. I became thin and weak and nervous, having severe pains at regular intervals," writes Mrs. Augustus Emory, Treasurer New Century Club, 34 Dean Street (Roxbury), Boston, Mass. She continues: "My work which before had seemed an easy task soon seemed like a heavy burden. I decided to try Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, which several of my friends praised so highly. I felt relief within a week, my appetite came back, the pains gradually decreased and I enjoyed sound sleep. Within fourteen weeks I had completely recovered my health. I seemed built up anew, my pulse, which had been weak became normal, and new life animated my entire being. I gladly endorse your medicine."

Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription restores weak and sick women to sound health, by curing the local womanly diseases which are generally responsible for the failure of the general health. A woman's entire being is centered in her womanly nature. When the delicate womanly organism is attacked by disease; when there is irregularity or a disagreeable drain; when inflammation burns and ulcers gnaw the general health will reflect the progress of disease, in increasing weakness, nervousness, backache, headache, loss of appetite and sleeplessness.

So sure of it is the World's Dispensary Medical Association, of Buffalo, N. Y., proprietors of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription, that they offer $500 reward for women who cannot be cured of Leucorrhea, Female weakness, Prolapsus, or Falling of Womb. All they ask is a fair and reasonable trial of their means of cure.

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets regulate the stomach, liver and bowels.

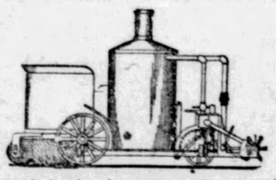
cited that it is hard to keep him from bounding to the roof and leaping off before the men are prepared for the circus feat. He runs back and forth across the top of the building until the signal is given below, when up in the air he goes, and down straight into the outstretched blanket.

A Mild Treatment for Cancer.

There is suffering and horrible death in this country from cancer, but thanks to human skill and perseverence, there is a remedy for it. After twenty-five years of patient labor and experiment, the celebrated Cancer Specialists, the Dr. D. M. Bye Co., of Indianapolis, Ind., have originated and perfected a combination of soothing, balmy oils, which act specifically on the diseased tissue. They have cured many hundreds, and have the endorsement of highest medical authorities as well as ministers of the gospel who have been cured. The doctors are always pleased to answer inquiry about the remedy, and will send free books and papers on application in person or by letter. Address Dr. D. M. Bye Co., Drawer 505, Dept. V, Indianapolis, Ind. (This is the home office.)

Snow Melting Machine.

With the approach of winter the city authorities and contractors are compelled to confront once more the problem of ridding the streets of the snow, which is such an impediment to traffic over paved streets and soon becomes anything but a thing of beauty under the action of the smoke and soot and the churning of the wheels and horses' hoofs. The farmer on the country road, with his sleighload of produce, may take along his shovel to cover a bare spot in the road with the slippery snow, but not so the city teamster. He is apt to find fault if the contractor does not cart it off the streets and



dump it in the river or on some vacant lot. To expedite matters the contractor may find it to his advantage to employ one of the machines here shown, should his contract read that he is to keep the streets clear of snow, without specifying that he shall do it with. This apparatus consists of a self-propelled vehicle, on which a boiler and fuel chamber are mounted. In front of the carriage are located a series of corners, or rakes, which serve to chop the snow up fine in preparation for the next process, which consists in disintegrating it with a number of jets of steam from the boiler. The water and dirt are then swept into the gutter by the rotary brush which follows the machine.

A Birthday Pull.

C. E. Matthews, "Old Reliable," has a birthday today (Wednesday)—fifty-seven this time. He remarked to the Mail scribe that he thought he ought to do something to commemorate the day, so he went and had a tooth pulled, and thinks he will remember it all right. Congratulatory letters come from Bangor, Rockland, Lewiston and Brockton, Mass. —Waterville (Me.) Mail.

Recent Literature.

The following books have been received by The Blade from the publishers named. For further information address the publishers, not us:

From the Fleming H. Revell Co., Chicago and New York:

The New Era in the Philippines, by Rev. Arthur Judson Brown, is a picture of the islands and their people, the result of a personal visit. It is profusely illustrated.

An Old-Fashioned Sugar-Camp, by Paul Griswold Huston, is a nature book, showing the love of the writer for the woods and fields, the birds and the flowers, and all things pertaining to a life apart from the artificialities of the town.

The Cark of Coin, by Harry Lindsay, is a novel which pictures the chase for wealth, and a pretty love story is interwined.

From Harper & Brothers, Franklin Square, New York:

Father Tuck's Annual, a collection of stories, poems, puzzles and pictures, is always a book fitted to delight the eyes of the small fry, and this year's issue is no exception to the rule.

A new and revised edition of the Games and Songs of American Children, collected and arranged by William Wells Newell, has been published. The book contains the games American children play and seem to know by intuition.

The Book of Months, by E. F Benson, is a book of drawings in color, representative of the month they attend. The text relates in a gossipy way the experiences and thoughts of a literary man-about-town.

From Lee & Shepard, Boston:

Don'ts for Mothers, by Gabrielle E. Jackson, is a volume of 250 cautions, arranged in sequence from the early months of first motherhood to the closing years of the aged grandmother.

The Hermit, by Charles Clark Mann, is an old-fashioned love story, the scene of which is mostly in the Maine woods. It is pleasant reading.

From L. C. Page & Co., Boston:

The above firm is publishing a series of juveniles known as Phyllis' Field Friends. There are four books in the series, written by Lenore E. Mulets, who designs to present to child readers the fact about flowers, insects, birds and animals in a way to make scientific facts entertaining and easily absorbed by young minds.

In the Cosy Corner series are two new books: Mother Nature's Little Ones, written by Frances Margaret Fox, a group of bright little tales about various kinds of water bugs and field insects; and Prince Yellowtop, a collection of dainty fairy tales with a strong, nature interest, written by Kate Whiting Patch.

Little Lady Marjorie is a story for girls from ten to fifteen years of age which follows the fortunes of a funny little girl cast ashore by the storm-lashed lake up at old Mackinaw. The author is Frances M. Fox.

Optimism, by Helen Keller, the remarkable deaf-blind girl, is a book of good cheer, looking on the sunny side of things. T. Y. Crowell & Co., New York.

The Holloday Case, by Burton E. Stevens, is a well-written detective story, so absorbing that no reader will lay it aside until finished. Henry Holt & Co., New York.

The Captain's Daughter, by Gwendolen Overton, is a book for girls, giving a picture of life at an army post in the west, and of excellent literary quality. Macmillan & Co., New York.

Rudyard Kipling's Just So Stories, with the poems set to music, is a charming book for the children. Doubleday, Page & Co., New York.

Japanese Physical Training, by H. Irving Hancock, gives directions for the system of exercise, diet and general mode of living practiced in Japan. Geo. P. Putnam's Sons, New York.

Ordered to China is a most interesting book, made up of the private letters written by the late Wilbur J. Chamberlain, the noted newspaper correspondent, to his wife while he was in China at the time of the Boxer war. Frederick A. Stokes & Co., New York.

The A B C of Photo-Micography, by W. H. Walmsley, gives beginners complete and excellent instructions in the art. Tennant & Wood, New York.

When Love Grows Cold, by Ellen Burns Sherman, is a series of essays on why love changes with the passing of the years. The A. Wessels Co., New York.

The Literary Guillotine is an amusing book in which it is feigned a number of popular authors are tried by the Literary Emergency court. John Lane, New York.

Robin Hood, His Book, by Eva March Tappan, tells of the adventures of the outlaw and his merry men in Sherwood Forest. Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

The Story of Teddy is a book for boys, giving the life of a boy full of fun and frolic. It is wholesome and pleasing. Publishing Co., New York.

Monks and Monasteries. A handsome new edition of this most interesting work by Alfred Wesley Wishart has recently come from the press of Albert Brandt, Trenton, New Jersey.

From the Scott-Thaw Company, New York, comes the first of the contemporary Thought Series. The subject matter of this initial book of the series is Max Nordau's essay on Zionism, and Dr. Gustav Gottheil's discussion of Anti-Semitism.

Daniel Webster for Young Americans contains the best of his speeches, with introduction and notes by Prof. Charles F. Richardson. Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

Men of the Bible is composed of seventeen lectures on the famous men of the Old Testament, by Rev. M. B. Wharton. E. B. Treat & Co., New York.

Victoria True, by Helen Van Anderson, is in the form of a journal, and is the story of a woman much tried by her environment. Stockham Publishing Co., Chicago.

On the Road With a Circus, by W. C. Thompson, is a book which describes actual life with a "big show" on its travels. It is very entertaining, and is true. The Isaac Goldmann Co., New York.

A Hill Prayer, by Marian Warner Wildman is a volume of fair verse, by an Ohio lady. The Gorham Press, Boston.

David and Goliath of Kentucky.

Kentuckians designate two of their own as the David and Goliath of the delegation. The one is Representative David Highbaugh Smith, of Hodgenville, a lightweight in avoirdupois; the other Representative Ollie James of Marion, who towers a giant, although he is nothing of a Philistine.—Washington Post.

A Boston Swell.

She—Fine looking overcoat you have on, Mr. Draper.

He—That's what I thought; but there's one thing about it that bothers me terribly. I can't make up my mind whether it looks better with the pocket flaps out or in.—Boston Transcript.

Incubator Advancement

Cornell Incubator—heated and ventilated in Nature's way. Always gets proper moisture lines at the right time.

Result: Most vigorous chicks ever hatched artificially. Gold Medal —Highest Award—Pan American Exposition. Catalogue free. Made only by

CORNELL INCUBATOR MFG. CO. Box 75 Ithaca, N. Y.

Cornell Incubator Mfg. Co. Ithaca, N. Y.: Dear Sirs—We put the Cornell Incubator to trial twice; 1st time hatched all but four fertile eggs; 2nd time all but one fertile egg, the strongest chicks we ever hatched in incubators. Your very truly, J. D. WILCOX & SON. Worcester, N. Y. Sept. 26, 1903.

The Farmstead

The following questions are submitted to readers for answer. We do this in the hope of getting the results of actual and successful experience, which will be the most valuable answers possible:

Will someone please tell me what ails my mare? She has rubbed nearly all the hair off her tail, and has done no good for a month. She eats and drinks heartily, but I cannot get her to thrive. A remedy through your most valuable paper would be highly appreciated.—R., Pearl, W. Va.

Will some of your readers give me a tried remedy for lump jaw? I have a valuable cow supposed to have lumpy jaw. I want to thank your many correspondents for much good information in the farm department.—E., Bridgeport, Okla.

Bone can be converted into so many beautiful and useful articles for the home that I would like for some of The Blade readers to tell how it can be bleached so it will be white.—E., Johnson City, Tenn.

I would like to know from some reader of The Blade how much alfalfa seed is required to sow one acre of ground for meadow, the best way of putting it in, and the best time of year to sow it.—E., Huntley, Wash.

Can some one of the many readers of The Blade tell me how to clean out the lime substance that collects in a tea kettle by boiling hard water in it?—W., Dixon, Illinois.

Would like to ask through your paper how to break a colt of rising on its hind feet every time it is hitched up? Has been broken to drive double, but does not like to start; when single will rear and pitch when first hitched up.—J., Pasadena Station, Cal.

Can some of your many subscribers inform me through the columns of The Blade what kind of soil a monthly rose requires, and what is the best kind of fertilizer to use?—K., Silver Lake, Ind.

Is there any manurial value in pure coal ashes? Are they any good to put around fruit trees? If so, when, how and in what quantities should they be applied?—S., North Salem, O.

Butter Will Not Come.

Editor Farmstead: To Y., Reynolds' Store, Va.: You probably keep your cream too long before churning. Churn oftener and there will be no trouble.—G., Arkport, N. Y.

For Bites and Wounds.

Editor Farmstead: In reply to R., Deersville, O.: For hog bite, dog bite, snake bite or blood poisoning from any cause, poultice with common mallows—stems, leaves or roots, steeped until soft. Keep the poultice warm. Use for nail hurts and all inflammation from hurts. It is a most wonderful remedy, for inflammation and blood poisoning. It grows in the yards nearly everywhere. It is a low spreading plant, like purslane, with bright, green leaves from one to two inches across; has a tough root like clover; lives over winter, keeps green. Has small circular seed balls, flattened like buckwheat. Children and older folks often call it "cheese weed" or mallee. Try it. Remember it, reader. It is a wonderful remedy.—H., West Toledo, O.

Bee Keeping.

Editor Farmstead:—In reply to query of Widow, Marble Cliff, O.: It would require a not very small volume to teach a novice how to keep bees and then you would have to gain a stock of experience of your own before you would be an expert. Subscribe for a bee journal and get the catalogue of some large supply house and then when you see all the ilmeracks and read all of the processes and performances you will, if you are smart, keep out altogether.

Some one lately asked why his bees for the last three years have made no more than their own living? There may be any number of reasons; too many bees to the square inch, the cutting down of basswood timber, the failure of white clover bloom, etc., and even if there is the usual amount of flowers they may not yield much honey, there being wide variations from year to year in this respect, they say. Bee keeping is a mighty precarious business.—G., Arkport, N. Y.

Girdling Grape Vines.

Editor Farmstead:—In reply to a query a week ago, let me say that girdling grape vines is done to increase the size of each cluster. It is not practiced exclusively, however, although some find the method profitable. The bark is entirely removed below the fruit cluster about a month before the period of ripening, which hastens ripening about a week or two in advance, and enlarges the bunch and berries. The sap ascends through the pores of the wood to sustain growth, but the elaborated sap descends through the wood and the bark, and can go no lower than the point at which the girdle is made, where it stops and is utilized in feeding the grapes. Some injury is done the vine below the girdle, and it may not pay to girdle on an extensive scale. I have never done it myself, but I take the above from a farm paper.—H., Orrville, O.

Hog Bristles.

Editor Farmstead:—Some one not long ago asked why, since bristles are imported in large quantity there should not be a market for domestic hog hair. Because some hogs, notably those of Russia, being of large, coarse breeds, bear long and strong bristles which are wanted for many purposes, paint and whitewash brushes and a great many other articles. If you produce hog hair enough to make it worth while you might sell it to mortar makers or phosphate factories, but the price would be low. Good brush making bristles would be a different matter.—G., Arkport, N. Y.

That Spavin Remedy.

Editor Farmstead:—In the Blade of Dec. 10 a cure for spavin was given, composed of sulphuric acid, nitric acid, tincture cantharides, and mercury. I would like to know if he means quicksilver or some of the mercuric salts like iodide of mercury. Please answer and oblige.—B., Parish, N. Y.

We refer the query to the friend who sent in the recipe, and will be glad to have a prompt answer for publication.

Chicken Cholera.

Editor Farmstead:—I saw in your paper of Dec. 10 that chicken cholera can not be cured. I would like to say it can be, as I had it in my flock of hens. Here is the recipe, as I used it: Take of asafetida a lump as large as an egg for twenty-four hens; dissolve it in water, then mix bran in it and let the hens eat it. If there are any too sick to come to the dish, make a pill and give each, and it cures them.—J., Pasadena, Cal.

Moisten the Feed.

Editor Farmstead:—Tell H., of Roachdale, Ind., not to feed mush or wet hay to his horse, unless it be sprinkled with water and well mixed up with a fork. It will be all dampened alike. Then his horse will get better. It has done well for me.—W., Dixon, Ill.

Self-Milkers and Kickers.

Editor Farmstead:—I am an old farmer, and have had some experience with cows. The best device I ever saw to prevent cows from sucking themselves is this: Put a head-stall on the cow—any cheap thing, except rope; put a surcingle around her—any old thing, except take a stick just long enough to reach from the girth to the headstall, letting it pass between the fore legs; fasten to both headstall and girth.

Self-milkers are almost invariably good milkers, and it will pay well to go to a little bother to overcome the habit. They will generally quit in one or two years.

For a kicker, stanchion or tie up close. Have a rope with a loop in the end. Put it on the cow's head, and draw it back to a solid post or stake. This has to be kept up sometimes for months. I have three cows now that I broke in this way.—L., Beloit, Kan.

Maple Sugar.

Editor Farmstead:—The following is in reply to the query from W., of Coudersport, Pa.: Sugar maples may be tapped at from 25 to 30 years after setting. The planting of trees is not likely to be overdone in this country—to amend the landscape, to shelter the land and its crops as well as buildings and stock from storm and cold, to furnish wood, timber and lumber; but planting sugar groves

Question Bureau

RULES.—1.—Your real name and postoffice address must be on the sheet with the question. Initials will not do. 2.—Ask only one question; that is, there may be several questions all on the same subject, but not different subjects. 3.—The editor of the Bureau is not allowed to give the address of any person or firm, nor about the reliability of any person or firm, nor where you can buy anything or sell anything—nothing in the way of free advertising. 4.—We reserve the right to decline to answer any question not of general interest; and will not answer any questions concerning prices of old coins, stamps, etc. 5.—Don't ask replies by mail. If the question is of general interest to our readers, we will reply in print, but never by mail.

Newspaper Subscriptions.

Is there any such law as that given below, which I clip from a newspaper?

"Any person who takes the paper regularly from the postoffice, whether directed to his name or whether he is a subscriber or not, is responsible for the pay.

"The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers and periodicals from the postoffice or removing and leaving them uncalled for is prima facie evidence of intentional fraud."—J. W. G., Pioneer, Ohio.

There is no national law on the subject, Congress has never enacted such a law. There is no court decision such as that mentioned in the second paragraph. The ordinary laws regarding contracts and the collection of debts cover the case completely. If a publisher follows the very bad business policy of sending his paper on credit, the subscription is like any other debt, and can be collected by suit, in the same way.

The dodge that some petty swindlers use, of saying "I never subscribed for the paper," does not work in such a case. To allow it to be delivered by carrier, or to take it out of the postoffice, makes him liable for the subscription. If a paper is sent without his subscribing he should refuse to take a single copy out of the office, or to allow the mail carrier to leave it. He should notify the postmaster of the facts also, preferably in writing. The first paragraph is a correct statement.

However, if The Blade reaches any one who has not subscribed, he can take it and read it without fear. We send out no papers which are not paid for in advance, and he may be sure some friend is sending The Blade to him.

Tender of Silver.

Is silver money a legal tender for more than $20? Also, can the United States compel any foreign nation to take our money as payment of a debt that we may owe them? What kind of money is a medium of exchange between nations?—E. M. R., Big Rapids, Mich.

The laws of the United States are of no effect in any other country. They can not be enforced except against people in the United States, or in our possessions. No law of ours can compel a merchant in Italy, or France, or Germany, or in any other country, to take our paper money or our silver money. Gold is the only money which is exchanged in international transactions—not because of law, for there is no law that can reach the case—but because the value of any gold coin of any country depends upon its weight, not upon the mint stamp. In the United States the law defines a dollar to be, not a value, but a weight. A dollar is so many grains of standard gold. The value of that dollar is just what the world's market price of that much gold may be. All other nations call their money units as a certain weight of gold.

As to silver dollars, here in the United States the law makes them a full legal tender to any amount whatever, unless there is a special agreement at the time the debt was contracted to pay it in something else. The other silver coins—half dollar, quarter dollar and dime—are legal tender for an amount not exceeding five dollars in one payment.

Serials in The Blade.

As you publish such good stories in The Blade, I wonder why you can not print them on only one side of the paper. Then your readers could cut them out and make scrap books of them.—Old Subscriber, Holley, N. Y.

All these serials appear on the first page, but usually the installment would be too short if it ended on that page. So we are compelled to run over on the second page. This is no obstacle to putting the installment in a scrap-book. Cut out the four columns on the first page that contain the story; put a line of paste along the outer edge, on the second page side, and put in your scrap-book. Don't daub paste all over the back of it. Then fold the portion of the paper that projects below the scrap-book page up, folding one or more times, so it will all be inside the scrap book. This is much quicker and better than the old way, and permits you to read on both sides, except about half the fourth column on second page; but the story never turns over that far.

President Twice Married.

In your issue of Feb. 19, 1903, you told of Miss Alice Roosevelt celebrating her nineteenth birthday on Feb. 11, and in the issue of Dec. 10 you give an account of Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt's 17th wedding anniversary. Has the President been married twice, or is there a mistake in the print?—J. R. W., Newey, Mo.

President Roosevelt has been twice married. His first marriage was in 1883 to Alice Lee, who died in 1884, leaving her infant daughter, now Miss Alice. In 1886 he married Miss Edith Kermit Carow, who is his present wife.

Poetry.

K. H. K., Phoenix, Ariz.: You are entirely mistaken when you say "we find the Blade objects to poetry." The Blade does not object to poetry; on the contrary, it admires it, and often publishes it. But a mess of words, cut up into lines, with rhymes at the end, we do not call poetry. There must be not only the verse form, represented by a given number of accented and unaccented syllables in regular order, and ending in a true rhyme or not, according as it is rhyme or blank verse; but also the idea involved must be poetic in its nature, and so expressed. Thus, let us take Christ's first miracle at Cana of Galilee—the turning of water into wine. It might be expressed thus:

"The Saviour ordered water brought;
They served—and lo! the wine they sought."

That is in the form of verse. Each line has four feet, each composed of an unaccented followed by an accented syllable; and the lines rhyme perfectly. But it is not poetry. Compare it with Milton's single line on the same subject, and you will see the difference between prose put into verse form, and true poetry. Milton wrote:

"The conscious water saw his God, and blushed."

Now, if you can realize the difference between these two examples, you will be able to understand that The Blade likes real poetry, like Milton's line, but has no patience with jingles like the first example, which is not poetry at all. The writer knows it is not poetry, for he wrote it himself. Here is another fragment that glows with the true poetic fire:

"She was a princess—but she fell.
Her shame went blushing down a line of kings."

We do not recall its author, but he was a true poet. We do not know of more than one poet of the first class living today in the English literary world, and that is Rudyard Kipling. We have versifiers in abundance in America, but very few poets. After the above explanation, you will be able to decide for yourself whether the lines you send are poetry.

Wouter Van Twiller.

Please explain the reference or allusion to Wouter Van Twiller.—P. H. S., Sedalia, M.

Wouter is the Dutch form of Walter. Wouter Van Twiller was one of the Dutch governors of New Amsterdam, now New York, serving from 1633 to 1637. He had disputes with the Masachusetts colony regarding the ownership of Connecticut, while he was in office. He was born at Nieu Kirk, Holland, about 1589, and died at Amsterdam after 1646. We do not recall the allusion to him. Had you clipped it out and sent it, we might have been able to add to the explanation.

"Limited" Companies.

What is meant by "limited" when applied to a corporation? For instance: "The North Shore Reduction Company, Limited."—T. H. E., Atwood, Tenn.

Some states have provisions in their laws controlling the organization of incorporated companies by which the liability of each stockholder for the debts and obligations of the company is limited to a specific amount, usually the amount of capital subscribed by him, or the par value of the stock owned by him. States which have such laws require companies organized under them to add the word "limited" or its abbreviation, "ltd," to the name of the company wherever used. This is to notify the public of the fact in case of financial dealings with it.

Kaspar Hauser.

Please give an account of Kasper Hauser.—J. A. G., Clinton, Iowa.

A young man, about 25 years of age, appeared in Nuremberg, Germany, in 1828, and was taken into custody by the police, to whom he gave his name as Kasper Hauser. He could walk with difficulty, not from any lameness or defect, but because apparently he had never learned to walk. He carried on his person a letter purporting to have been written by a Bavarian laborer, which stated that the bearer had been found at the writer's door, Oct. 7, 1812. A note was inclosed purporting to have been written by the mother. It stated the foundling's name was Kasper; that he was born April 30, 1812, that his father was a captain in a regiment at Nuremberg and his mother was a poor girl. The boy said he had been confined in a dark room all his life, until one night a man put the letter into his hand and directed him on the road to Nuremberg. He was placed by the authorities under the care of Prof. Daumer, and was afterward adopted by Lord Stanhope. He died in 1833 in consequence of a wound which he asserted had been given by an unknown person who enticed him to a meeting in a lonely spot by the promise of information as to his origin. Nothing was ever discovered concering him more than is given above.

The New Harlem Claim.

I see in The Blade of Dec. 3, the following item under the head of Current Events:

"Title to land worth $1,000,000,000 in the upper part of Manhattan is claimed by 17,000 heirs of the members of the old corporation of New Harlem. A suit will be brought to secure possession."

Please let me know under what title they are trying to get this land or who were the original owners. The reason I ask this is because my grandparents claimed an estate there left them under a grant given to a colony under Lafayette.—O. A. C., Sheboygan, Wis.

There never was a colony under Lafayette. Therefore you must be mistaken as to your grandparents' claims.

The claim rests on an order of the director general and council of New Netherlands, dated the 4th of March, 1658, which made an incorporated village of New Harlem and granted to each New Harlem settled full ownership of from fifty to sixty acres of land. This was followed in 1668 by patents issued by Gov. Nicolls and Gov. Dongan, the last naming all the freeholders and inhabitants of Harlem at that date, twenty-three in all, as grantees and members of the corporation of the town of New Harlem. Certain of the lands so granted were divided by the town among the twenty-three original members of the corporation. As to existing titles that can be traced back to any of those there seems to be no question. Certain other lands were held by the town, appear never to have been granted by the town, and to quote the language of the attorney for the heirs of the grantees, "should be remain today undivided, either unoccupied or in the possession of unlawful occupants." The "unlawful occupants" side of the story remains to be told and the foundation on which they base their claim of title will be disclosed in the course of the legal proceedings, if the operation of the statute of limitations does not render such disclosure unnecessary. The claimants, of course, hold that the statute of limitations does not apply in this case.

There are about 40,000 heirs of the original patentees and they have formed an apparently powerful and wealthy association under the leadership of Henry Pennington Toler. There is every prospect of an interesting litigation and plenty of occupation for New York lawyers, and that is about all that can be safely prognosticated in regard to the New Harlem claim, until the courts have passed on it in its new form. The efforts of individual heirs to establish their alleged title have never yet been successful. But this revival of the corporation and proposed litigation in the name of the corporation constitute a new feature of the situation. Whether it essentially affects the question of title or not remains to be seen.

Henry George.

B. H. S., Greenwood, O.: Henry George was born at Philadelphia in 1839, died at New York in 1897. He went to sea at an early age, and in 1858 settled in California, where he went into newspaper work. He became a writer on political economy and sociology. In 1880 he went to New York, where he spent the rest of his life. For an explanation of his absurd single tax theory, see Question Bureau of Weekly Blade of Oct. 29 last. We can not reprint.

Two Kinds of Carats.

What is a carat, as when a diamond is spoken of? And when the gold of which jewelry, watch-cases, gold pens, etc., is said to be so many carats fine?—F. E. M., Lisbon, N. Y.

The word is derived from the Arabic word quirat, which was a weight, the 24th part of an ounce. The word now has two meanings, one as a weight, the other as indicating the proportion of pure metal in a given mass of gold.

In its first meaning, a carat is the unit of weight for precious stones, equal to about 3 1-6 Troy grains, in 1877 the weight of a carat was fixed by a syndicate of London, Paris and Amsterdam jewelers at 205 milligrams, or 151.76 carats to the Troy ounce.

In its second sense, a carat is a twenty-fourth part. Pure gold is 24 carats fine; "22 carats fine" means that 22-24ths of its weight is pure gold, and 2-24ths is alloy. The gold used in jewelry is seldom over 18 carats fine, except in wedding rings, which are usually made of 22-carat gold. For chains, etc., 14-carat gold is generally used.

Religions of the World.

Please state what is the estimated population of the world at this time. What is the number of of Christians, consisting of Roman Catholics and Protestants? What is the number of Buddhists, Mohammedans, Brahmins, the followers of Confucius and the Jews? Have more than one-fourth of the people of the earth ever heard of the Christian religion?—G. G. W., Urbana, Ill.

The following figures are from Mulhall and are the latest compiled:

CHRISTIANS.

Roman Catholics	203,255,000
Greek church	80,015,000
Protestants	107,017,000
Total Christians	390,287,000

OTHER FAITHS.

Jews	10,000,000
Mohammedan	176,834,000
Confucianism	256,000,000
Hindooism	190,000,000
Buddhism	147,900,000
Taoism	43,000,000
Shintoism	14,000,000
Paganism	118,000,000
Total	955,734,000

In making up these figures as to the United States only the number of communicants, as reported by the different churches, were taken. In the remainder of the world the total number of persons of that faith are set down—children as well as parents.

The total population of the globe, as estimated by Prof. Bartholomew, of Edinburgh, is about 1,440,650,000.

Honduras.

Please tell me what you can about Honduras, the climate and people; also the price paid for labor there.—F. I., Ethridge, Tenn.

Honduras, a republic of Central America, has an area of 46,500 square miles, and a population of 432,000. Except for a strip of swampy land along each coast, the country is a table-land, broken by fertile plains and valleys, and rising at times into mountains. The climate is hot and unhealthy along the coast; the highlands are cool. Cattle raising is an important industry. The exports, mostly to the United States, include hides, fruits, cocoa-nuts, India rubber, sarsaparilla, fine hardwoods and indigo. We know nothing of the rate of wages ruling there. If you have money to engage in business there, and to hire the Indian labor of the country, you might make it profitable, but if you propose to labor yourself you will do better to join a gang of negro roustabouts on a Mississippi river steamboat.

Moon's Axial Rotation.

Does the moon rotate on its axis in the same sense that the earth rotates? If it does, why do we not see both sides? Is it proper to call this motion rotation?—E. T. H., Huntertown, Ind.

The moon makes one complete rotation on her axis in exactly the same time that she makes one revolution in her orbit around the earth. This is a true rotation, for if she had no axial rotation at all, in being carried around the earth we should see every portion of the moon's surface within a month. But as she rotates, we see only the one side. Consult any good textbook on astronomy for a full discussion of this.

The Smoot Petitions.

In one o fyour recent issues, The Blade takes the ground that no attention will or ought to be paid to the admittedly largest and most respectable petition that has ever been sent to the United States senate. The writer would like to know the difference between this position and one denying the right to petition altogether.—H. H. L., Newark, W. Va.

Here is a case of careless reading and hence of attributing to us a position our words did not imply, and which is far from our meaning. We assume the above refers to a recent editorial article on the Smoot case, though the writer was so careless as not to state the subject to which he referred.

The right to petition is one thing; the doing as the petitioners ask is quite another thing. Any citizen has the constitutional right to petition congress, or either house thereof; but the latter has the undoubted right to do as it pleases about granting the petition. Keep this distinction carefully in mind.

All these petitions ask that the senate shall unseat Mr. Smoot; and certain reasons are alleged why, in the opinion of the petitioners, this should be done. Are the allegation contained in these petitions correct? These petitions are referred to a committee of the senate; and it is the duty of that committee to hear evidence as to whether these allegations are true or false.

Some of these petitions allege that Smoot is a polygamist in practice—that he has more than one wife. If this be true, he should be unseated; but it is not true, and is so acknowledged in Washington.

Another is that he, being an "apostle" in the Mormon church, is an active officer in an ecclesiastical organization which supports polygamy, and that he believes in polygamy. His belief so long as he does not practice it, is not criminal. A man cannot be punished for believing in a thing which is contrary to law; it is only when he does something which is contrary to law that he becomes amenable to punishment.

No doubt some of our friends are reluctant to concede this. They think that if Smoot believes in polygamy, whether he practices it or not, he should be expelled. But if Smoot believes in polygamy, it is as a religious tenet; and to oust him because of religious belief would be contrary to the spirit of our free institutions. It would set a dangerous precedent. Furthermore the senate will not expel him on that account.

If it can be proved that Smoot performed the ceremony of plural marriage for others, by virtue of his church office of "apostle," that would be cause enough to expel him; but, from the nature of the case, such proof can hardly be obtained, as such ceremonies are performed in secret.

The only other charge that we are aware of is that he has taken a vow of loyalty to the Mormon church, and that he regards this as superior to his oath of loyalty to the United States. We doubt if this charge can be proved, or that it is susceptible of proof. A man may be ecclesiastically subject to the Mormon church or the Roman Catholic church, or the Presbyterian church, or any other church, but politically he is subject to the United States. His loyalty to his church should not interfere with his loyalty to his country; and, in Mr. Smoot's case, it will have to be proved that he holds his allegiance to his church higher than his allegiance to the government. Can it be proved? Is there any act of his which affords sufficient proof?

We have no sympathy with Mormonism; we would be glad if there were not a Mormon (of the Utah brand) in the country; we regard it as a colossal mistake to have admitted Utah as a state; but that has been done, the legislature has elected Mr. Smoot senator, and we do not believe there is evidence sufficient to permit the senate to unseat him. Religious freedom must be upheld, even at the price of retaining Smoot in his seat.

The Holy Land.

Will you please tell me who owns the Holy Land, and by what government ruled?—D. O., Buckhannon, W. Va.

Palestine belongs to the Turkish empire. It is embraced in Turkey in Asia, and is part of the province of Syria, which stretches from Anatolia on the north to Hedjaz in Arabia on the south. Palestine is no longer a separate country, nor are its outlines clearly traceable. About 85 per cent of its inhabitants are Arabs—Mohammedans, of course—and the remainder are Greeks, Jews and people of many different eastern nations. The ownership of the land—that is, the portion which can be cultivated—is of course in the hands of native landowners, chiefly Arabs. Remember, that all Arabs are not a wandering race. The wandering Arabs are called Bedouins, to distinguish them from the Arabs settled in towns and villages and who own land. The sultan is the absolute ruler of the Turkish empire.

Legal Tender Money.

Is it a fact that silver, as well as gold, is a legal tender for all debts, public and private? To what extent are nickel and copper legal tender? Is paper money of all kinds legal for all debts, public and private?—G. A. N., McEwen, Tenn.

Gold coin is a legal tender in any amount for any purpose.

Silver dollars are a legal tender in any amount, unless the contract specifies payment in some other form of money.

Minor silver coins—halves, quarters or dimes—are a legal tender for sums not in excess of five dollars in one payment.

Nickels and cents are legal tender for sums not exceeding 25 cents in one payment.

United States Treasury notes (greenbacks) are a legal tender for everything but customs duties, and interest on the public debt.

Gold certificates, silver certificates and national bank notes are not legal tender.

The Panama Canal.

Please give a history of the Panama canal.—I. S. G., Mattawan, Mich.

Please give description, length, width, cost, etc., of the Panama canal, also the benefit when built.—J. X. M., Pine Village, Ind.

Several other readers also ask similar questions. Below are given the facts as they exist at present. The plans for the canal may be changed, of course; no one can say as to that.

The advantages of the Panama route are a narrow isthmus and comparatively low summit of the mountain range which forms its backbone. This high portion of the projected route is a section six miles wide near the Pacific side. Colon will be the entrance on the Atlantic side, and Panama that on the Pacific. The harbor of Colon is an exposed one, and when a "norther," a gale from the north, comes, vessels are obliged to put out to sea until it blows over, or run the risk of being driven ashore. At Panama, however, there are a number of islands in the bay, between which on the shore there is a well-protected anchorage. There is quite a difference in the height of the tides on the two sides of the isthmus. At Colon, the average difference in height between high and low tide is one foot, while at Panama it is about 20 feet. This will render it necessary to have the short section of the canal from Panama to the first lock deep enough to allow for this difference between high and low tide.

The canal is 46 miles in length. There are to be four locks, or rather pairs of locks, so that two vessels can lock up or down at the same time, thus preventing delay. The first two pairs of locks, coming in from the Atlantic, are at Bohio; the third pair at Obispo, by which the summit level is reached, which is 85 feet above the mean level of the sea. This summit level embraces the celebrated Culebra and Emperador cuts. At the highest point of the mountain range, the bottom of the canal will be 286 feet below the natural surface of the ground. This immense cut, almost eight miles long, will be lined with masonry walls. At a reasonable distance above the water in the cut, a bench 38 feet wide will be made on each side. On one of these, the track of the Panama railroad will be laid, while on the other a service track will be placed.

The fourth pair of locks will be at Paraiso; the fifth at Pedro Miguel, and the sixth and last at Miraflores. From this the route is less than five miles to La Boca (The Mouth"), through a low swampy country. At La Boca the Panama Railway company has built a substantial wharf. From this a dredged channel, 200 feet wide, will extend about 4¼ miles out under the waters of Panama bay, to the line where the bay deepens to six fathoms, or 36 feet.

But how is water to be furnished to all the upper levels of the canal? The supply must go into the highest level, and each locking of a vessel on either side will take out a lockful of water. Every boat that goes through will thus require a lock of water at each end of the summit level. These locks will be each about 740 feet long and 82 feet wide, and the amount of water required will be large.

This water will be obtained by two dams on the Chagres river. The one will be at Alhajuela, about nine and one-third miles from the canal channel, and the other at Bohio. The latter will create a huge artificial lake, which will extend 13½ miles to Obispo. The channel of the canal will lie in the bed of this huge artificial lake, and thus a vast amount of excavation will be unnecessary. This dam simply makes slackwater navigation between Bohio and Obispo.

The dam at Alhajuela will furnish the water for the summit level of the canal. From the dam to the summit level above the Obispo locks a feeder will be dug, capable of carrying nearly 7,000 gallons of water per second. The surplus water will be utilized in running dynamos to furnish electric lights for the canal, current for the electric operation of the machinery of the locks, etc. The dam itself will be 937 feet long on its crest, which will be 135 feet above the river bed.

The work on the Panama canal is two-fifths completed. The estimated cost of completion is $87,000,000. To this may well be added 20 per cent for contingencies, which will bring the cost up to $102,400,000. It will require, it is estimated, from eight to ten years to complete it.

Fair Admissions.

What were the total paid admissions to the World's fair at Chicago and the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo during the months of June, July and August?—F. P., Huntertown, Ind.

We have not the figures requested, and we will not have them. We perceive that guessing contests on the number of admissions at St. Louis are already arranged, but we do not propose to be pestered with questions like the above, to be used for comparison in guessing. Don't write to The Blade to help you out. If you want to gamble on the number of admissions, don't try to make The Blade participate criminis.

Santo Domingo.

P. H. F., Quinton, Va.: The natives of the Dominican republic, which occupies the eastern portion of Hayti, are negroes, sometimes mixed with Spanish blood. The President, Wos y Gil, recently driven out, and Jiminez, who is trying to become president, are both blacks, but we think with a Spanish admixture. There is one railroad in the republic, 72 miles long, and telegraph lines between the principal cities. Their navy consists of a few small vessels, generally ordinary steamers or tugs with guns mounted. Hon. Wm. F. Powell is the United States charge d'affaires. He is a white man.

The Torrens System.

Will you kindly explain the Torrens sysqtem of land transfer, or Torrens land system?—W. F., Chesaning, Mich.

The Torrens system provides, first, for a complete examination of the titles to all real estate, and the recording of them in a manner accredited for the purpose. Then, instead of a deed, the state issues a certificate that Mr., John Blank is the owner of a certain tract, and that it guarantees his title. This certificate can be transferred from owner to buyer as often as necessary. It obviates all costly surveys or abstracts of title; the buyer, under it is perfectly protected against loss through a defective title; the transfer of real estate is made as a matter of a few minutes, and of a trivial fee. In short, altogether the best system yet devised, and it is a continued wonder to us that it is not adopted by state legislatures.

Presidential Proclamations.

Does the President write a proclamation as for instance the so-called emancipation proclamation? Did President Lincoln write that document or was it prepared by congress merely for his signature?—F. W. C., New River, Va.

Proclamations belong to the sphere of duties of the executive department of the government, not to the legislative (lawmaking) department. They are prepared by the President himself, and issued through the secretary of state. Congress has not the power to order them issued. It may legislate for some purpose and make the legislative effective when proclaimed by the President, but the President has to sign that law before it comes valid. For example, the recent bill for putting into effect the new reciprocity treaty with Cuba provides that the President shall issue his proclamation that the treaty is in effect, and this was done, but the President wrote the proclamation. You should read the constitution of the United States and get a clear idea of the division of authority among the three great departments of government—the executive, the legislative and the judicial.

Oldest Mountains in America

Which are the oldest mountains, those of Eastern North America, South America or Western ones?—R. G. Foosland, Ill.

The oldest land in North America is the Canadian highlands, extending north of lakes Erie and Ontario, on to the seacoast. This was followed by the gradual uplifting of the White and Green mountains, and the mountain region northeastward through Maine. The Alleghenies are next in geological time, and the great Rocky mountain uplift is the youngest range in North America. The relative ages are told by the strata of rock uplifted when the mountain range was formed. To illustrate: If we find in a range of mountains a stratum of rock that is known to belong to a given geologic age—a stratum of sandstone, for example, belonging to the carboniferous era—bent or crumpled by the mighty forces which caused the uplift, we know that mountain chain was raised after the carboniferous era. The Canadian (sometimes called Laurentian, from the river St. Lawrence) highlands were ground down tremendously during the glacial epoch, and fragments of the primitive granites of which they were composed were carried south by the ice and may be found all over Northern Ohio, the state of New York and farther east. As to the mountains of South America, we do not think they have ever been investigated by scientists to determine their relative age. You should get a good text book on geology and read up on the subject, if you are interested in it.

Miscellaneous.

C. L. C., Dartford, Wis.: We do not know.

J. S. H., Johnson City, Tenn.: No, we cannot believe that God is guilty of injustice.

P. M. S., Richardson, Tenn.: To study modern medicine by mail is a transparent humbug. It can not be done successfully.

E. M. W., Celo, N. C.: You can doubtless get the facts by writing to the owner, whose name and address are given in the article.

A. A. C., South Hope, Me: If you will read the article on Gen. Wood on the first page of this issue, you will find the Jai Alai company described.

E. A. C., Hardman, Ore.: There is no one whose duty it is to answer such letters. Get all you can out of a school geography, gazetteer or cyclopedia.

Subscriber, Ozark, Mo.: We cannot tell the difference in time unless you can give us the exact longitude of each place; and we have nothing which gives that.

F. C., Columbus, Ind.: Your question is too comprehensive. It would amount to an essay on great American statesmen, and we can't undertake that in the bureau.

J. R. O., Earleyville, Tenn.: Dr. Talmage was never a believer in spiritualism. You evidently do not realize that the spiritualists have the habit of claiming that every prominent man was a spiritualist; but they always wait until he dies before they say it.

A Natural Conclusion.

He—"I had no idea that this was the most expensive restaurant in town!"

She—"What makes you think it is?"

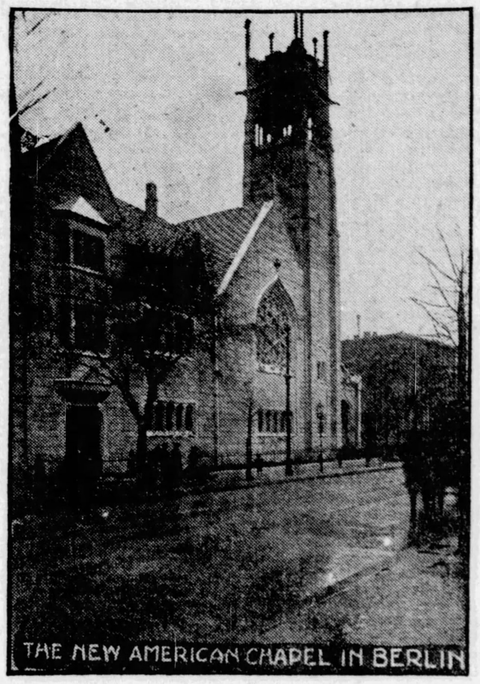
He—"Didn't you choose it?"—Detroit Free Press.

Stops Chills **Painkiller** (PERRY DAVIS') Cures Colds

American Church in Berlin

The Handsomest American Church Outside the United States.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—Without doubt, the handsomest American church outside the United States is that which Americans in Berlin dedicated on Thanksgiving day, in the presence of Crown Prince Frederick William, Minister of Public Worship Dr. Studt, Ambassador Tower and a host of other dignitaries. The pretty Gothic greystone structure, representing a cost with ground of more than $100,000 is the culmination of forty years' endeavor to give the sons and daughters of Columbia temporarily or permanently exiled in the Kaiser's capital a religious meeting-place of purely American environment. Its graceful tower dominates the fashionable neighborhood of Nollendorf-Platz, in "Berlin West," which is the quarter in which most of the Americans in Berlin live. The building covers an area o 136 by 88 feet, and the church has a maximum seating capacity of 700. A magnificent pipe-organ and a large, beautiful stained-glass window behind the pulpit complete the pleasant interior effect. Other windows are devoted to memorial purposes, in honor of men and women who have been identified with the philanthropic and religious life of Americans in Berlin during the past fifty years.


THE NEW AMERICAN CHAPEL IN BERLIN

Chief credit for the erection of the church is due to the indefatigable pastor, the Rev. Dr. J. F. Dickie, a Scotchman by birth, but American through and through, as the result of a long and successful pastorate at the Central Presbyterian church of Detroit. Dr. Dickie, who "fathers" the hundreds of young men and women who annually come to Berlin for music, medical and university study, has worked day and night for the past five years to make the American church a reality. He has made frequent trips to the United States at his own expense to induce wealthy church people at home to interest themselves in the Berlin congregation, which, by the way, is wholly undenominational. One of the chief contributors to the building fund was John D. Rockefeler, who gave his check for $10,000. Leading citizens of New York, Boston, Baltimore, Philadelphia, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis have also made generous donations. The equipment of the church was provided for largely by bazaars held for the purpose by the energetic and successful American Woman's Club in Berlin, of which Mrs. Frank H. Mason, the wife of our consul general; Mrs. Mary B. Willard, sister-in-law of Frances Willard, and others are the leading spirits.

This history of the American church of Berlin recites that it was founded under the leadership of Governor Wright, of Indiana, who was minister to Prussia during the civil war and for years after 1867. Historian George Bancroft, during his later residence in Berlin as United States minister, was a devoted patron of the church in its early days, as were other noted men like Seth Low, Bancroft Davis and Dr. Henry Van Dyke. Secretary of War Elihu Root, during his residence in Germany as a university student, officiated as secretary of the church in 1875 and 1876. Bishop Phillips Brooks occupied the pulpit in the summer of 1879. When collection of funds was begun in America, Mrs. Grover Cleveland accepted the treasurership of the American committee, in recollection of her student-days in Berlin, in the course of which she became engaged through correspondence to her distinguished husband.

SPANISH BONEYARD.

Tourists visiting the West Indies and looking for curious sights should not fail to visit a small town about seven miles north of San Juan, Puerto Rico. Ask any native where the bone-yard is and for a few pennies he will conduct you to a cemetery, situated on a hill. In one corner of the cemetery is a place surrounded by a stone wall, gray with age. There is a door leading to the interior, and by opening and looking inside you will see a sight never to be forgotten. Before you are hundreds of remains of natives thrown there to lie and decay. I inquired as to this method of burial and was told that only the well to do could have their relatives' remains placed in the ground.

COUNTED HIS FOOTSTEPS

A German Explorer's Way of Mapping His Route Through Africa.

Count Edward Wickenburg, a German explorer, has returned home after a long expedition in Africa. He started from the French port of Djibouti, traveled inland to Addis-Ababa, the capital of King Menelik, then on to the great brackish Lake Rudolf, and finally to Lamu, on the Indian ocean. It was a very fruitful journey, and the best feature of it was the fine map he brought home of his entire itinerary.

Count Wickenburg had with him two pedometers, which counted his footsteps for him, and he was thus saved the labor which Dr. Junker underwent when he walked 400 miles into the depths of Africa and had to count every step himself. Wickenburg ascertained very carefully the average length of his steps. One thousand steps were represented on the map by a line a little over a third of an inch long. Every mile he walked added about an inch to his route on the map.

When his path was straightaway he often walked as far as 2,000 steps before he stopped to bring up his map to the point he had reached. If the path were crooked he stopped more frequently.

So he trudged on, compass in hand, taking the direction of the route, while his pedometers kept steadily counting his footsteps. Twenty-one big sheets were required to record the first stage of his journey, a distance of 273 miles.

When the expedition returned home his hundreds of map sheets were reduced, in the process of engraving, to sheets of much smaller scale. His map has been published this month in six sheets, and a fine product it is, giving much detail about every important aspect of the country for miles away on both sides of the map.—New York Sun.

Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure

Costs Nothing If It Fails.

Any honest person who suffers from Rheumatism is welcome to this offer. For years I searched everywhere to find a specific for Rheumatism. For nearly 20 years I devoted to this end. At last, in Germany, my search was rewarded. I found a poetic chemical that did not disappoint me as other Rheumatic remedies had disappointed physicians everywhere.

I do not mean that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure can turn bony joints into fresh again. That is impossible. But it will drive from the blood the poison that causes pain and swelling, and then that is the end of Rheumatism. I know this so well that I will furnish for a full month my Rheumatic Cure on trial. I cannot cure all cases within a month. It would be unreasonable to expect that. But most cases will yield within 30 days. This trial treatment will convince you that Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure is a power against Rheumatism—a potent force against disease, that is irresistible.

My offer is made to convince you of my faith. My faith is founded on the evidence—the evidence of actual knowledge. I KNOW what it can do. And I know this so well that I will furnish my remedy on trial. Send for my special free book on Rheumatism. I will then arrange with a druggist in your vicinity so that you can secure six bottles of Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure for you to make the test. You may take it a full month on trial. If it succeeds, the cost to you is $5.50. If it fails, the loss is mine and the druggist's. You will be left entirely to you. I mean that exactly. If you say the trial is not satisfactory I don't expect a penny from you.

I have no samples. Any mere sample that can affect chronic Rheumatism must be dragged to the verge of danger. I use no such drugs, for I have no right to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood. My remedy does that even in the most difficult, obstinate cases. It drives out the last trace of uric acid left over, and in all of my experience, in all of my 2,000 tests, I never found another remedy that would cure one chronic case in ten.

Write me and I will send you the book. Try my remedy for a month, for it can't harm you anyway. If it fails the loss is mine.

Address Dr. Shoop, Box 528, Racine, Wis.

Mild cases not chronic are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists

I Cure Women

OF FEMALE DISEASES AND PILES

I Will Cure You So That You Will Stay Cured—Women No Longer Need Submit to Embarassing Examinations and Big Doctor Bills.

To Show Good Faith and to Prove to You That I Can Cure You I Will Send Free a Package of My Remedy to Every Sufferer.

I hold the secret of a discovery which has never failed to cure women of piles or female weakness. Failing of the womb, painful menstrual periods, leucorrhea, granulation, ulceration, etc., are very readily cured by my treatment.

I now offer this priceless secret to the women of America, knowing that it will always effect a cure, no matter how long you have suffered or how many doctors have failed.

I do not ask any sufferer to take my unsupported word for this, although it is true as gospel. If you will send me your name and address, I will send you a trial package absolutely free, which will show you that you can be cured. The free trial packages alone often are enough to cure.

Just sit down and write me for it today.

Mrs. Cora B. Miller, Box No. 107, Kokomo, Ind.

SENT FREE BATH CABINET

IT IS YOURS FOR THE ASKING

without one cent of cost. This is NO 30 DAYS TRIAL scheme. It is YOURS TO KEEP FOREVER and we under no circumstances ASK FOR OR ACCEPT any money for it, either now or in the future. Simply **send us your name and address** and we will send you a Cabinet. WE GUARANTEE TO BE THE BEST BATH CABINET MADE. One trial will prove to you its superiority over all others. You never again will be without a Bath Cabinet in the house. It cures:

NERVOUSNESS, LIVER, KIDNEY, URINARY or BLADDER DISEASES.

IT WILL CURE Rheumatism, Nervous Debility, Paralysis, Locomotor Ataxia, Varicocele, Piles, Spermatorrhoea, Blood Poison. ALL these can be driven out of the human system by the use of the Cabinet. We give it away FREE to all who can be cured by it. After you are cured your friends will want one and from these sales we will make our profit. BE A STRONG, VIGOROUS MAN, with perfect health, feeling good ALL the time. Write us in confidence telling all about your case.

WOMAN Piles, Constipation, Female Weakness, Bearing-Down Pains, Painful Monthlies, all Female ills yield like magic to this Great Curative Agent. "Your Cabinet quickly cured me of Piles and Female Weakness from which I suffered in silent misery many years." Mrs. G. B. DeTEAUX.

Wisconsin Medical Bath Cabinet Co., Room 917 Alhambra Bldg., Milwaukee, Wis.

The Sunday School

A GREAT MAN'S GREAT MESSAGE

The International Sunday-School Lesson for January 10 Is "The Preaching of John the Baptist," Matt. 3:1-12.

BY WILLIAM T. ELLIS.

A country that for generations had been barren of any really great figure was producing two at the one time. Up in Galilee, at a carpenter's bench, toiled One whose greatness was more than human, the commissioned Redeemer of the race. Down in Judea, in the wilderness, was his second cousin, John, six months older, living the hermit life of a mystic, a seer, a prophet.

The first was a Nazarene, the second a Nazarite, one bearing the name from his home town, Nazareth, and the other from the ascetic vow of abstinence and separation which he had taken, the sign of which was the unshorn head and unshaven face. Jesus was a man of the town, John a man of the desert. Jesus prepared himself by close fellowship with and knowledge of his fellows, John by separation and silent communion with nature. The one was quiet, gentle, cultured; the other was rough, uncouth in appearance and unsparing of speech. John's peculiar mission required in him a rugged vigor, an independence of thought and life, freedom from conventional restraints and a simple, steadfast and unfettered devotion to the single aim.

A Man With a Mission.

The peculiar privilege—and it was an endowment and equipment as well—of knowing to be one sent into the world for a definite work was granted to this hairy man in the rough raiment and leather girdle, whose diet was that furnished by the locusts and honey of the wilderness. John was from the first under the constraint of a great purpose. He was one of those happy men who knew his life work. To accomplish it was the consuming passion of his soul.

To be the servant of a great cause, to be able to find all of one's powers unreservedly and fearlessly into some noble endeavor—that is to draw the sting from life and to know the sweetness of existence which only God's soldier saints understand. The man of all men to be envied, if we may envy anybody, is he who has found his work and is spending himself in it.

Voices and Echoes.

The world is full of echoes, common report has it, but it hears few voices. This John the Baptist was a voice. He made people stop and think as they had not done since the rabbis of spring time. Rabbi this meant that Rabbi that said that some other Rabbi thought so and so! His was a clean, fresh, positive voice with an original message.

As it always has done and always will do, the world heard, stopped and thronged to listen. This new tone was compelling. It was different from the smooth tones with which the synagogues echoed, ad it was perhaps uncouth; but it betokened a personality. The snobs sneered because the preacher's clothes were not correct; the rich tried to be patronizing because of his evident poverty; the ecclesiastically proper held up hands of horror at his heterodoxy, but still the people came and heard and heeded,

TOLEDO BLADE.

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Largest and Best Weekly Published and Largest Circulation.

TOLEDO BLADE CO.....Publishers
ROBINSON LOCKE.....Editor

THE BLADE is a weekly newspaper for intelligent American citizens. It aims to cover, each week, all news topics of real interest to all wideawake and thinking men. Its editorial page is one of the strongest and most thoughtful in the United States. Its special departments are carefully edited, and the whole paper is intended for the homes of the free American people.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK - 161,000

We wish a Happy New Year to all of the great Blade family.

THE LAST DAY OF THE OLD YEAR

This is the last day of the year 1903. Tomorrow begins a new twelvemonth. It is a proper time for us to look back over the path we have traveled since last New Year's Day, and determine where we stand. Are we advancing or going backward? We are each of us one year nearer the inevitable end of life's journey. Have we gone upward as well as forward?

The frailty of "New Year resolutions" has been so often made the subject of flippant fun by newspaper humorists, that it has become stale. Yet for all the penny-a-liners may say, it is a good thing to take a reckoning, to find how far we have deviated from the true course on our voyage, then take anew our bearings, and start again in the right direction.

To waste regrets on the past is unprofitable. Nothing we can do will change the record. The only thing we can do is to make our blunders, our wrongdoings, profitable by avoiding them in the future. We should learn wisdom from our errors; place a guard over ourselves to avoid them in the future. Humanity is fallible; we all make mistakes. But we should never repeat one that we have made. We should make them the stepping stones to higher things.

ARCHBISHOP QUIGLEY ON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Archbishop Quigley delivered an address at Chicago on December 20, before the Roman Catholic Women's League. In it he made some statements which demand attention. One of them is that "the state must provide schools for the minority as well as for the majority. The state should divide the public school system and maintain a separate system for the minority—separate in the sense of religious teaching. The two systems could be under one control, but in the Catholic division Catholic principles should be taught." The other is the assertion that the education of the child should rest with the church and not with the state.

As to the latter, the education of the child should rest with neither church nor state. It is a parental duty. The parent may choose whether his child shall take advantage of the education offered by the state, or by the church. A government of the people by the people requires an educated voting population for its very preservation; and hence the state has a right to demand that all children shall be educated, and to furnish free schools for the children of those who are willing to avail themselves thereof, or who are not able to furnish other means of education for their children. But it must be left optional with parents whether their children shall be educated at home, in private schools (church or other), or in the public schools. Neither the state nor the church should be allowed to usurp the parental privilege.

Equally without sound reason is Archbishop Quigley's contention that the state should maintain separate schools for the Roman Catholics, or for the Lutherans, or the Methodists, or the Christian Scientists, or for any other religious cult. Freedom of religion and freedom of thought require that the state shall never support any school in which religious dogmas are inculcated.

The position of Archbishop Quigley is not new. It is that of the Catholic heirarchy in general. But it rests on the fallacy that moral training can only be given through religious teaching. There is a distinction between morals and religion which our Catholic friends do not recognize. A man may be a strictly moral man, and be a pagan in his religion. But a man can not be a really religious man without also being a moral man. Morals has for its domain the code of conduct as to our fellow-man and ourselves which is universally recognied by all civilized people. Religion embraces all this, plus certain beliefs concerning God and our relation to him. Good morals is necessary to good citizenship ,and hence properly receive attention in a state school; religious beliefs are of many differing kinds, and the state has no right to tax its people to inculcate any particular kind, nor to teach it to the young.

All are taxed for the support of the state schools, and all parents are entitled to their benefit for their children: whether they will avail themselves of them is their own affair. If they do not, they have no more right to claim a share of the public school funds than the childless taxpayer has the right to claim exemption from school taxation because he has no children to be benefited.

MINISTER BUCHANAN.

Hon. W. I. Buchanan, the new minister to the republic of Panama, is credited by a number of newspapers to Ohio. The gentleman is a native of this state, but he has for many years been a citizen of Iowa. William Insco Buchanan was a farmer boy, born near Covington, Miami county, this state, in 1853, receiving his education in the country schools. In 1882 he removed to Sioux City, Iowa, where he was a member of a wholesale and retail china house. He was one of the organizers and managers of the first four corn palaces in that city. He was the Democratic member from Iowa of the World's Columbian Commission, which organized the Chicago World's Fair, and he was in charge of the live stock and forestry departments of the great exposition.

President Cleveland appointed him minister to the Argentine Republic in 1894, which position he held until 1900. He was the deciding arbitrator in the boundary dispute between Argentine and Chile. He was the director general of the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo, and now has the honor of appointment as the first United States minister to Panama.

HOW THE COREANS FEEL.

The Chicago Tribune has sent a special representative to the Far East in the person of Miss Eliza R. Scidmore. The selection is an admirable one, for Miss Scidmore is peculiarly fitted for the work. She is an enthusiast in geographic work, the foreign secretary of the National Geographic society, and has travelled, not as a mere sight-seer, but as a scientific expert, in Alaska, Japan, Corea, Siberia, China, and the East Indies. She is the author of a half dozen meritorious books concerning her travels. Hence her observations as set forth in her letters to the Tribune, are trustworthy and valuable.

Writing from Seoul, the capital, she finds Corean politics the same "as it has been for centuries back—corruption, imbecility and foreign intrigue." The "hermit kingdom" is lethargic and sleepy, and apparently indifferent or insensible to the character of the dispute between Russia and Japan which threatens war between the two powers and Corea's extinction as an independent nation. What is especially significant is the intimation that Russia has so completely obtained the ear of the Corean monarch that the latter is looking to the czar for support. We have here another instance of the underhand workings of Russian diplomacy, and cannot wonder at Japan's demand that Corea shall be her own sphere of influence, from which Russia shall be rigidly excluded.

Miss Scidmore also finds that there is a strong anti-American influence at work. A decade ago, the Americans had much to do with shaping the thought of the influential men of the hermit kingdom, and the outlook then was that there might be a development of the country along lines in harmony with the American idea of progress—that Corea might repeat the extraordinary revolution in ideals which makes the history of Japan so remarkable for the past half century. But Russian influence has been at work, and the result has been to annul much that was being accomplished under American tutelage. Corea is fallen upon evil days. It is the bone of contention between Japan and Russia, and it is almost certain to fall a prey to the one or the other.

THE GREATEST TRAFFIC BRIDGE

The new Williamsburg bridge which was formally opened on Saturday, is the greatest structure of its kind in the world, capacity for traffic considered. It has a width of 118 feet, 33 feet greater than the old bridge. Provision is thereby made for two roadways for vehicles, four trolley tracks, two elevated tracks, and two 18-foot ways for pedestrians and bicycles.

In the construction of this bridge, the commissioners have had an eye to the future growth of Greater New York. It will be some years, no doubt, before the bridge is tested to its full capacity, but that that time will come within this generation is as certain as that day follows night.

Which reminds us that Toledo is still depending upon the Cherry street bridge for communication with the East Side, just as she did twenty years ago, although the population has nearly trebled within that period. The Fassett street "folly" might as well be located at Maumee so far as utility is concerned.

JAPAN'S "ELDER STATESMEN."

There is one Japanese institution which is unique. In times of national crisis, it seems to be a custom to summon to conference in the capital all of the leading public men of the empire, of all political views. The present threatening conditions as to Russia has caused these "elder statesmen" to be summoned in council, to give the imperial government the benefit of their counsel and experience. They have outgrown the hot blood and rashness of youth, and can exert a wise conservative influence upon the patriotic fervor of the masses of the people; and when the little empire confronts the overgrown power of Russia, conservative counsels are valuable.

BRYAN HOBNOBS WITH KINGS

There never was a campaign orator who more sternly repudiated all sympathy with European monarchial forms, or who was more assertive against royalty and aristocracy than William Jennings Bryan. Now he is having a high old time hobnobbing with royalty. Were a Republican political leader to have done what Mr. Bryan is now doing, Bryan would have denounced it as a base truckling to Old World aritocracy. And Mr. Bryan works the cables persistently to keep himself in the public eye. His being dined and wined in England, his visit to Tolstoi, his fifteen-minute visit to the Czar are all exploited as of news value, though all prominent American tourists can tell of similar experiences.

THE WRIGHT AIRSHIP.

The problem of navigating the air is one of the most difficult that has ever been undertaken, and whatever degree of success is finally reached must be through a long series of experiments, each of which reveals some point of improvement. This has been the history of most great inventions.

The machines so far proposed or tested divide themselves into two classes, the basic distinction being the method of overcoming the pull of gravitation on the machine. Santos Dumont's plan is to support the weight by a balloon. The other endeavors to support the weight by aeroplanes or equivalent devices. Prof. Langley's ill-fated machine is on the aeroplane system; that of the Wright brothers, successfully tested at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, last week, is on the principle of the box kite.

The utilization of this principle is not new; it has been tried by several experimenters. The Wrights have had better success than any previous ones. Their machine is launched by the experimenter himself, without any machinery. He finds a level hilltop, on which he can run on a straight line for some distance, and then leap from the crest into the air. The sand dunes on the North Carolina sea-coast furnish an ideal place for such experiments, as the wind-blown dunes afford starting-points, and there is no forest in which the machine can become entangled on alighting.

The Wright machine driven by gasoline motor, flew for eight miles against a wind blowing twenty miles an hour, and alighted safely. These gentlemen, who live in Dayton, have made a distinct advance over previous investigators in this line, and it may be that good old Ohio will have the honor of furnishing the first really successful model of a flying machine.

COLOMBIA'S PLIGHT.

Whether there will be war on the isthmus depends entirely on Colombia. "War with Panama means war with the United States," is the substance of the advices which General Reyes sends to Bogota. He is hurrying the preparation of his official note to the United States government, in order to return as soon as possible. He is the president-elect of Colombia, and if he does not soon appear on the scene in person it is probable the war party in Bogota will obtain the upper hand, and imperil his popularity.

The recognition of the republic of Panama by Peru and Argentina shows that the dream of a coalition of the South American republics against the United States will not come to anything. Its recognition by all the commercial nations of Europe negatives any hope of securing foreign interference in Colombia's behalf. The world regards Panama as a closed incident. The new republic is an accomplished fact. Everybody so regards it except the fatuous politicians of Bogota and a few Democrats in the United States senate.

A NEW PHILIPPINE ERA.

The final contracts for the sale of the friars lands in the Philippines were signed on December 22. Everybody connected with the settlement seems pleased with a satisfactory conclusion of the whole matter by fair negotiation. Monsignor Guidi, in a cable dispatch to Archbishop Ireland, very happily sets forth its importance to the people of the islands. He says that this transfer of the friars' lands, in connection with the advent of American bishops, "puts an end to all politico-religious controversies in the Philippines, and inaugurates an era of civil and religious peace." The friars, and their holding of some of the best agricultural lands, was the most deeply-rooted Filipino grievance. It is a seasonable event, in full harmony with the spirit of Christmas. Pope Pius himself said that he could not have received a more welcome Christmas gift than the announcement of an honorable and peaceful solution of the vexed question.

THE WISDOM OF ROOSEVELT.

The more the American people study Theodore Roosevelt, the more they look into the motives underlying his action, the better they love him. He is distinctively a man of the people. That he has made mistakes, no one denies; but they have been errors of judgment, not of the heart. He has gone ahead earnestly, honestly and often strenuously, but ever with an eye single to the welfare of his country.

The great majority of citizens trust him implicitly. The fact that he has incurred the ill-will of combination promoters is the surest index of his wisdom. The further fact that he is not liked by some of the more radical labor leaders is a guarantee that there is nothing of the demagogue about him, that he holds patriotism above personal political prestige, and will not swerve one hair's breadth from his conception of duty to add a single vote to his following.

He is the skillful pilot to steer the Republican craft between the Scylla of capital's demand and the Charybdis of labor's importunity.

TWO INSTRUCTED SENATORS.

The Louisiana legislature has instructed the two United States Senators from that state to vote in favor of the ratification of the Panama canal treaty "whenever said treaty be submitted to the United States senate." This action relieves these two senators from the operation of Senator Gorman's new caucus rule, and by leaving them free to vote with the Republicans supplies the majority with all but one of the sixty votes needed. That is, if all the Republican Senators vote for it, which is entirely probable, unless Mr. Hoar shall be foolish and record his folly in a negative vote. However, there is really but very little doubt of the ratification of the treaty.

THE NEED OF HASTE.

It is easy to find fault. The Democrats in the Senate are loudly declaring against the "indecent haste" with which the republic of Panama was recognized. They criticise the fact that American naval vessels had been ordered to the isthmus before the revolution broke out, and charge that it shows that the government at Washington was expecting it to happen; and this is made the basis for the insinuation that the revolution was fomented and encouraged from Washington.

But there is another side to this matter. The canal concession and the canal property on the isthmus of Panama belongs to a French company; these interests are promised to the United States for $40,000,000, but the bargain is not yet completed. Now, it is a fact that, had the United States government acted leisurely, a French fleet would have been hurried to the isthmus for the protection of endangered French property rights. Then there would have been a muddle, and a far more serious condition than now exists. All this trouble was obviated by the promptitude of the Washington authorities, who were well aware that, given the opportunity, the French government would put its finger into the pie.

Had that happened, the very men who are now abusing the government for its haste would be abusing it for its neglect of American interests. We would be told that the state of public feeling on the isthmus was well known, that a revolutionary movement was clearly foreshadowed, and that our authorities were stupidly neglectful of their duty in the matter. It would be pointed out that it was their duty to have a strong naval force in these waters, to care for American interests, and to prevent French meddling.

Oh, it is easy to find a pretext for abusing the government, when that is your aim!

SOME "NASBY" LETTERS WILL BE REPRINTED

The Blade has increasingly-frequent requests that we shall republish in its columns a selection of the Nasby Letters.

These requests come from two classes of readers; First, from those who have grown up since the death of Mr. D. R. Locke, in 1887, and who know of his unequalled political satires only by reputation; and, second, from old readers, who recall with delight the reading of the weekly Nasby letters, as they appeared in the columns of The Blade.

Some dozen years ago we printed the larger number of the Nasby letters in a volume, of which we sold nearly 100,000 copies. Many of these were obtained by Blade subscribers, who desired to have the letters in permanent form.

But, when the volume was compiled, there were a number of the letters which could not be included without making the book too bulky. We have concluded, in view of the frequent requests we receive, to publish shortly a selected number of the letters which did not appear in the printed volume. The series will begin in two or three weeks, and we can promise all Blade readers, old and new, that the letters are quite as worthy of their perusal as those included in the book.

Each letter will be accompanied, when necessary, with an explanation of the political conditions which called it forth, so that the reader will be able to have a clear understanding of the points of the letter.

DREYFUS TO BE VINDICATED.

The celebrated Dreyfus case is to be reopened. The unfortunate Jewish captain, accused of treason in selling for money the secrets of the French war office, degraded and dismissed from the army, imprisoned in a tropical hell on Devil's island, is to have another trial—this time not by a military court, but by a civil tribunal—the criminal section of the court of cassation.

Some time ago, in response to the efforts of Dreyfus and his counsel, the French minister of justice appointed a commission, to which body was submitted all the evidence adduced at the two courts-martial, and "additional facts" brought to light by Gen. Andre, the minister of war. These "additional facts" are simply the proofs that much of the evidence before the two military tribunals was falsehood and forgery. There is no doubt the real culprit, for whom Dreyfus was made to suffer, was Colonel Henry. A bitter hatred of all Jews led to making Dreyfus the scapegoat of this scoundrel.

There is every reason to believe that the court of cassation will completely exonerate Dreyfus, and that he will be restored, with honor, to his proper rank in the French army, after ten years of undeserved outrage and obloquy, which he did not deserve. The fanatic passions of the mob seem to be absent now. There will not be a revival of those extraordinary scenes, which made every patriotic Frenchman blush to see his countrymen fanatically demanding the punishment and degradation of an innocent man "for the honor of the army."

ROCKEFELLER'S DONATION.

The University of Chicago announces the gift of $1,850,000 by Mr. Rockefeller, and the additional gift of $1,046,000 from an unannounced source, but believed also to be from the Standard Oil magnate. Gifts of such magnitude to the cause of education are investments at which we all can rejoice, irrespective of the source. They will prove of vast benefit, of course, and enable the university to broaden its course and to afford better facilities to students. Naturally there will be a great deal of comment as to Mr. Rockefeller's princely donation: but in reality it is the gift of the consumers of coal oil, being a part of the excessive and unnecessary profits of the Standard Oil company.

BEATING A RETREAT.

The latest from Washington is that the Democrats will not try to enforce the caucus rule on the Panama treaty. Gorman has probably heard from Louisiana. And, in de course of time, he will hear from Georgia, Alabama, Florida and Texas, all of which are anxiously urging the ratification of the treaty. In fact, the constituents of the Democratic senators are more nearly unanimous for the Panama canal than are the constituents of the Republican senators.

In announcing the adoption of the rule, Senator Bailey said: "In some way or another, the Republican senators have been able to unite on measures without a party resolution and when a man bolted, he was shot on the spot. They have carried party discipline to the point of abject submission; we have pursued our course to the point of insubordination." If the senator had analyzed the records of the two parties a little more truthfully, he might have said that Republicans have a knack of getting on the right side of important questions, and thereby securing the moral support of the people, while the Democrats invariably attempt to force action that is opposed to the public interests. They advocated tariff for revenue only at a time when a protective tariff was indispensable to the country's prosperity. They were insistent for free coinage when the interests of the nation demanded a stable currency and they gave encouragement to the rebels who would have divided the Union.

It is not, therefore, the crack of the party whip that has unified the Republican leaders. It is the knowledge that they are the servants of the people and must represent their constituents. The Democratic senators have made a most unfortunate selection of an issue on which to enforce party discipline. The people are for the treaty and will not tolerate senseless opposition. Protests against the action of the Democratic caucus have been so numerous and pronounced that Gorman has probably been forced to change front. If the obnoxious rule is withdrawn, the treaty will be ratified by an overwhelming vote and it is a question if it could have been defeated, even if Gorman had succeeded in gagging the wills of Democratic senators.

Mrs. Elizabeth Weisen undertook to carry out her deceased husband's wishes and erected a $25,000 mausoleum over his remains. Now she has been forced into bankruptcy. Most women would have gone into a trance before buying the marble, and held a fleeting memory responsible for any direlection of widowly duty.

New York has just bidden adieu to the horse car. Yet it is spoken of as the greatest and most progressive city of the western hemisphere!

COMMENT OF THE WEEK

Labor and Wages.

The year has seen brought about a marked change in the attitude of organized labor toward industry generally. The early part of the year saw the labor world apparently determined to get all that the traffic would bear out of productive industry. The second three months saw strike activity at its height, and June 1 witnessed a perfect tornado of strikes. Complete figures are not yet available, but it is safe to say that between 650,000 and 700,000 men struck for higher wages or were locked out because of refusal to abide by existing conditions, or for unionism or other causes. Of these fully three-fourths struck before the turn of the year, and probably three-fourths of all failed to win their point. This is close to, if, indeed, it does not exceed, the record of the trouble year 1894, hitherto the record period as regards number of strikers. Notable troubles were the strikes of 100,000 textile workers at Philadelphia, 75,000 building hands locked out at New York, 20,000 building hands at Philadelphia, 13,000 cotton mill hands at Lowell, 10,000 men at Gloversville, and smaller numbers of teamsters at Omaha and Chicago, freight handlers at St. Louis and Kansas City, builders at Pittsburg and street car men at Richmond, Va. Lake firemen tied up shipping business for a while. In New York the effects of these troubles were very seriously hurtful to general business. Toward the close of the year, however, the tide turned and strikes became less numerous. Modified conditions of employment made the 100,000 New England cotton mill hands accept a 10 per cent. reduction without striking, and Connellsville cokemen's wages were cut 17 per cent. Overproduction of soft coal led to the announcement that western soft coal miners would have to accept lower wages, and in the iron and steel trade the general tendency is toward lower wages all around. The only really formidable strike troubles toward the close of the year were in the coal mining regions of Colorado and Utah. The prevalence of strikes in 1903 largely set at rest the idea that meetings and speechmaking by associated representatives of capital and labor would succeed in preventing these troubles.

Panama Affairs.

Affairs in relation to Panama continue to drift along, though not without the development of some points of interest. What may be regarded as a protest against American action was cabled by the Colombian minister of foreign affairs a few days ago. In this document the ground is taken that by the treaty of 1846 the United States did not acquire control over interoceanic transit, but entered into obligations by which, for compensatory favors it guaranteed the neutrality, property and sovereignty of the isthmus, the sovereignty being indivisible. It is further insisted that the conduct of the government at Washington has been and now is in every way favorable to the rebellion, but not to the maintenance of order. In Colombia a feeling in favor of war with Panama seems to be growing. General Reyes is cabling home in the endeavor to restrain the rising tide of Colombian sentiment, warning his countrymen that war with Panama means war with the United States. In the United States the plans of the antagonists of the new treaty have been seriously interfered with by the adoption by the legislature of Louisiana of resolutions calling upon the senators from that state to vote in favor of ratifying the treaty. This action is likely to be followed by the legislatures of other southern states, for southern sentiment is strongly in favor of the canal, whose construction is now apparently for the first time in sight.

England and Japan.

One of the factors of prime importance in the present tension between Japan and Russia is the attitude of Great Britain. It may be remembered that one of the provisions of the Anglo-Japanese treaty of January, 1902, was that in case either of the contracting powers should become engaged in a war, the other party should use its efforts to prevent other powers from joining in the hostilities against its ally, and that in case any other power should join in such hostilities, it should come to the assistance of its ally. There is nothing in these expressed terms of the treaty to compel Great Britain to throw in its lot with Japan in the case of a war with Russia, but there is certainly nothing to prevent such an outcome, and it would not be very surprising to find Great Britain a participant ultimately, if not in the early stages, in a conflict between Japan and Russia.

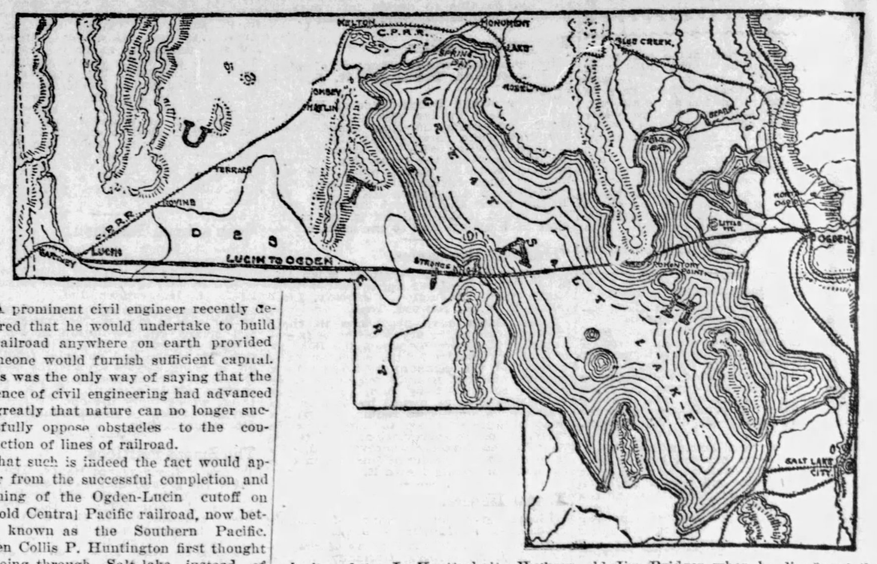
Philippine Money.

The displacement of the Mexican silver dollar by the new coinage in the Philippines was marked by a proclamation recently issued by Governor Taft, in which he announced that Mexican silver dollars should be receivable for public dues until January 1, 1904, at the rate of $2.30 of Mexican money for one dollar of the United States, unless this rate should be subsequently changed by proclamation. This proclamation was issued in compliance with the terms of the Philippine coinage act, which provided that the new unit of value should be established when a sufficient supply, not less than 5,000,000 Philippine pesos, should be available for circulation in the islands. The change will be welcomed by the business men of the islands, for the fluctuation in the ratio has been a source of great trouble and loss to them, as well as to the insular government itself.

Chamberlain's Campaign.

The recent elections for parliament in Australia have resulted in a practical victory for the opponents of Chamberlainism or British preference. A majority of moderate protectionists and anti-imperialists has been chosen. In other words, the people refuse to allow the destruction of their home manufactures in the interest of British producers and more complete imperial control. The London Standard, speaking of the result in Australia, says it expects the same decision in Canada. This expectation will probably be realized. Not one of the great colonies that developed industries under protection in the Victorian age is likely to commit self-immolation to gratify the statesmen of the Edwardian era. A great change has come in England, but the colonies see no occasion for a reaction at their expense.

ENGINEERS NO LONGER BOW TO NATURE'S OPPOSING OBSTACLES



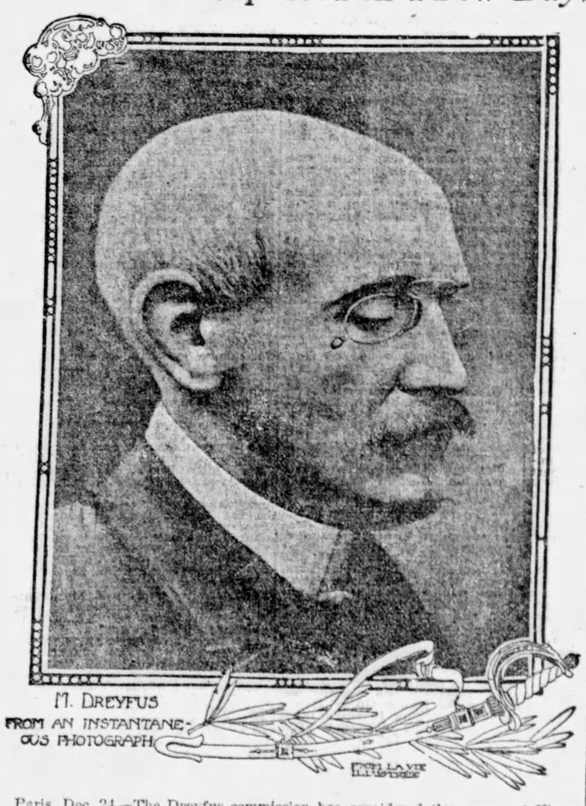
A prominent civil engineer recently declared that he would undertake to build a railroad anywhere on earth provided someone would furnish sufficient capital. This was the only way of saying that the science of civil engineering had advanced so greatly that nature can no longer successfully oppose obstacles to the construction of lines of railroad.

That such is indeed the fact would appear from the successful completion and opening of the Ogden-Lucin cutoff on the old Central Pacific railroad, now better known as the Southern Pacific. When Collis P. Huntington first thought of going through Salt lake instead of around its northern end he was thought to be a dreamer of fantastical dreams.

When Edward H. Harriman actually undertook to do the thing at an expense of nearly $5,000,000 he was thought to be courting ruin, and the Western press ironically referred to Mr. Harriman's "great sink hole," into which he was said to be pouring millions which would never bear fruit. Now that this most novel and greatest engineering feat of its kind is an accomplished fact, railroad men throughout the country realize what courage it required for Mr. Harriman to ask it and for J. Kruttschnit, William Hood, Horace C. Burt, and J. B. Berry, Union and Southern Pacific officials to advise its undertaking.

In several respects, in the opinion of H. R. McCullough, third vice president of the Northwestern railway, the opening of the Lucin cut-off was more historical than the union of the East and West when the golden spike was driven into the Southern Pacific track on Promontory Point May 9, 1869. "It represents," declared Mr. McCullough, "the limit of development in transportation methods contrasted with the journey of old Jim Bridger when he discovered the great Salt lake and Bear river in 1824. Since then the expenditure of many millions has reduced the time to three days, and finally the elimination of the summit of Sherman Pass by the Aspen tunnel, the conquering of Salt lake, the reduction of grades and the elimination of curves and the double track of the Northwestern, all at an expenditure of more than $60,000,000, have made possible the further reduction to two and one-half days from the Missouri river as against 60 days from the Missouri river by the overland stage of 53 years ago."

Dreyfus Decision Is Expected in a Few Days



Paris, Dec. 24.—The Dreyfus commission has considered the report of Victor Mercier, one of the directors of the ministry of justice and the reporter of the Dreyfus commission, on the evidence submitted by War Minister Andre. The members of the commission said the documents in the case are voluminous, and they propose to thoroughly study them, so that a decision is not expected to be rendered for some days. It is generally supposed that the commission will support M. Mercier's findings and that they are favorable to Dreyfus.

TRICK TO PLAY ON GRANDPA.

CLASP HIS HANDS ABOUT ONE OF THE TABLE LEGS.

Of course it is not at all nice to play tricks on one's elders, but there are times when the elder has played a trick of some sort on you, or has indulged in some pleasantry that makes one long for some means of "getting back," to borrow a slang expression.

Here is a little trick for one of these times and you will find it very effective indeed, and quite laughable. Suppose grandpa has fooled you badly, as grandfathers are very apt to do. Suppose a half-hour or so has passed, but you are still anxious to get even if you can. This is your chance.

Grasp grandpa firmly by the wrists as if you were about to handcuff him and say that you can clasp his hands in such a way that he cannot leave the room without unclasping them. Probably he will look sharply at you for a minute trying to divine your purpose, and if you maintain your firm hold on his wrists he will be led to believe that you intend to use your strength for the purpose.

Then lead him to a table and seating him on a chair by it, clasp his hands about one of the legs as the picture shows. Of course, he cannot now leave the room without unclasping them unless he overturns the table or drags it with him.

COLOMBIAN STAMP.

Though they are prized by collectors, it is safe to say that no artist would find anything beautiful in the stamps, which are shown in the accompanying picture.

Indeed, they are shockingly crude, and for an obvious reason. They were issued in common during the recent revolution, and, as the government had other things to think about, the various postoffices printed stamps whenever they needed them, and took little or no pains to maintain any uniformity of design or color. Naturally, the craftsmen employed at this work were not specially skilled in the art of engraving; hence, though they doubtless did their best, the stamps manufactured by most of them are in many respects the most unsightly that have ever appeared. Fortunately, their duration of life was short, and in future they will only possess interest for collectors who may not find it very easy to procure a complete set of them.

The Engineer's Place.

When the wreck of the Baltimore and Ohio engine was discovered at Sykesville recently the body of the engineer was missing. Yet did anyone suspect that the driver of the locomotive felt himself to blame for the wreck and fled like a poltroon? Not one. The only theory advanced was that he was crushed beneath the wreckage and there, indeed, he was found. Such is the confidence with which people may presume upon the heroism of the man who sits on the right hand side of the cab and watches the track ahead.—Baltimore American.

Current Events.

Designs for St. Louis world's fair stamps are decided upon by the postoffice department.

Civil service commission will establish a branch headquarters in Chicago early next month.

Illinois Steel company mills in South Chicago are closed without notice and 6,500 men are made idle.

Secretary Moody asks congress for $2,000,000 for armor and armament for the new naval ships now being rushed.

San Francisco's application to obtain water from the Yosemite National park is refused by the secretary of the interior.

President Roosevelt announces that he has tendered the position of assistant secretary of commerce and labor to Lawrence O. Murray, of Chicago.

Mayor Harrison says Chicago will be a "puritan village," and that if there is any violation of the gambling and midnight closing laws some one will be punished.

All records for Christmas business in the New York postoffice are broken this year. One million packages passed through the office in one day. The foreign mails are very heavy.

Speculators in cotton, who invested two months ago, have made profits of 2,000 per cent by the recent rise. Daniel J. Sully buys a $250,000 house for his wife's Christmas present.

Germany declares that Great Britain is about to join issues with Japan if war with Russia results that she may recover her lost prestige in the far east. Mikado's government is preparing for hostilities.

Yale university scientist lives at the Waldorf hotel in New York on $1 a day and finds he can subsist well in the expensive hostelry on that sum. He will go back to New Haven to live on 20 cents a day.

Fourteen hundred steerage passengers on the steamship Blucher rage in a panic in the hold during a furious gale in midocean. They are held in check only by the efforts of two priests and four of the Blucher's armed officers.

Proposed Cuban tariff bill attacked in congress by Senor Bustamente, because United States would repudiate reciprocity if bill is passed; duties called exorbitant.

Leo N. Brennan, engraver, arrested in Chicago on receiving package which he supposed contained $25,000, sent by Marshall Field in response to threat.

Japan hurrying preparations for war, while British fleet at Hong Kong is provisioning for voyage; neutral policy decided on by Chinese; defense made ready.

Friction reported between Moore-Leeds interest in Rock Island railroad and Yoakum interest in St. Louis and San Francisco over Moore's financial plans.

Taku forts completely razed according to 1900 peace protocol, and Japanese and French flags gying on their site. Tien Tsin typical boom town, rebuilt since 1900.

Senator Gorman practically out of presidential race as result of failure to judge southern sentiment on Panama canal treaty, his plan to defeat it being repudiated.

Ex-Gov. Taft left Manila after scoring merchants and press for lack of interest in administration; speculation on self-government useless till schools are filled.

Gen. Reyes' protest against recognition of Panama republic presented to Secretary Hay; his return to Colombia will be delayed until answer is given.

Dreyfus will be retried by civil tribunal, according to decision of revision commission; hearing set for January, when he expects full vindication; new evidence found.

Franklin pressfeeders' union, Chicago, dissolved in supposed effort to escape pending lawsuits; its officers under conspiracy indictments and $40,000 fund dwindling.

Further investigation of Chicago strike violence recommended to its successor by grand jury, which adjourned after indicting six union officials and members.

Steamer Erastus Corning sunk on reef off Norwalk, Conn., and panic started among its thirty passengers; woman jumped overboard, but was rescued with rest.

Wagner's "Parsifal" given first production in America at New York; great audience witnessed what critic describes as child of composer's "artistic decrepitude," imposing only as a pageant.

Thirteen passengers who faced death for five days when the steamship Menominee was overwhelmed and disabled by a giant wave in the Atlantic arrive in New York city on the Cedric and tell of their thrilling escape from death.

Advices received in New York from Rome say the American archbishops have been summoned to Rome to confer with the pope over a plan to decentralize many of the attributes of the congregation of the propaganda.

H. Vier Davies, who represented Sir Thomas Lipton in arranging the America's cup races, alleges that the baronet has failed to live up to his financial agreement.

Cooper Union in New York wins its suit for $130,000 damages against the Manhattan Elevated after years of fighting.

John Alexander Dowie says that within 100 years Christ will return to earth and rule for ten centuries at Zion City, after which the world will be destroyed. Dowie says he will accompany Christ in the return.

Arguments advanced by General Reyes in his protest to the United States in behalf of Colombia are to be made public.

Insurgent army in command of Gen. Jiminez, former president of Santo Domingo, is marching on the City of San Domingo and a battle is expected. Rebel cause is said to be growing.

Russia still is considering its reply to Japan's note, and changes may be made that may permit of an amicable settlement. Japan demands that response be made by Jan. 7.

Bologna's famous leaning tower, immortalized by the poet Dante, is sold to an Italian nobleman, and a protest is made to the government.

President and Mrs. Roosevelt spend Christmas quietly at the White House, entertaining a few friends at dinner.

Illinois leads all other states in the number of electric power plants. Municipal ownership of these plants is gaining.

Former Governor Horace Boies of Iowa lives a retired life on his farm, near Elders. He has aged rapidly since the death of his son.

Good Bread

If you want to learn how to make good bread, or wish to improve your method of making bread, send for our six recipes for making bread and rolls. We send them FREE to every one asking for them.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

The Blade "Xtra"

DESCRIPTION

MOVEMENT—17 jeweled, 16 size, adjusted to heat and cold.

CASE—20-year, 16 size, engine turned, hunting..... **$18.00**

This watch cannot be purchased at any store for less than $30.00.

We have only a limited number. If you want one you must get your order in at once. It is the greatest watch bargain ever offered Blade readers. If you intend buying a watch, this is your opportunity to get a fine movement at a very low price. It will pay you to take advantage of this opportunity. It will never come to you again.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Our Watch Leader:

B I. For Men:

A 20-year, gold filled, open face, S. B. & B. plain or engine turned, 16 size case, fitted with 7 jewel Elgin or Waltham movement **$5.90**

C I. For Ladies:

A 20-year, gold filled plain or engine turned, 6 size hunting case, fitted with 7 jewel Elgin or Waltham movement **$10.75**

All Watches are sent by registered mail.

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

$7.00 and $7.50

A handsome gold filled hunting case, guaranteed to wear ten years, fitted with a 7-jeweled N. Y. Standard movement.

16 size $7 50
12 size 7 00

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

SILVER-PLATED TABLEWARE

We offer our readers, this season, the Rogers Bros.' very handsome Carlton pattern of spoons. These goods are plated with pure silver on nickel silver base, and are fully guaranteed by the manufacturers.

The knives are first coated with copper, then heavily plated with nickel and afterwards with silver. The nickel plate not only doubles the durability of the goods, but, being nearly impervious to moisture, renders knives so plated less liable to rust than those plated in the ordinary way. Prices:

½ doz. Teaspoons.....$3 50
½ doz. Dessert Spoons 1.50
½ doz. Table Spoons 1.60
½ doz. Knives and Forks.... 3.75

All goods are sent by open mail or express, all charges prepaid by us. If you desire package registered, send 8c extra. A charge of 2c per letter is made for engraving.

Address all orders to

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

Waltham and Elgin Watches

We now make the most remarkable offers in the history of the watch business—WALTHAM and ELGIN watches only, regular 18 size and 6 size, in cases of the highest grade. Our gold cases are made of solid gold in two thick plates, reinforced with a sheet of fine composition metal. If properly used the 25-year cases will last a lifetime. Every watch contains Breguet hairspring, quick train, compensation balance safety pinion, stem winding and setting apparatus of the latest design, and all the greatest improvements known to modern expert watchmakers. WALTHAM and ELGIN watches don't wear out. They are all good. Of course, full (15) jeweled works in 25-year cases are better than 7 jeweled works in 20-year cases, but all are fully guaranteed. Why not have correct time? You can have it if you are fortunate enough to get one of our watches. These offers are not for the general public, but any subscriber may buy all the wishes at these prices, which are far lower than dealers' prices for watches not so good. Our men's watches are suitable for boys and our ladies' watches for girls.

The cases are plain or engine-turned. Engraved cases are extra, as per rates quoted in our list.

MEN'S GOLD WATCHES.

Our prices include free delivery, in good running order.

No. 71—7-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case $14.30
Extra for engraved case.....$1.00
No. 72—7-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case 11.65
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 73—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 15.90
Extra for engraved case.....$1.00
No. 74—15-jeweled works, 25-year open-face case 13.25
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 75—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 12.20
No. 76—7-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case 9.75
No. 77—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 13.75
No. 78—15-jeweled works, 20-year open-face case 11.30

MEN'S NICKEL SILVER WATCHES.

No. 79 -7-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case 5.60
No. 80—15-jeweled works, nickel silver, open-face case 7.20

LADIES GOLD WATCHES.

No. 81—7 jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 12.15
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 82—15-jeweled works, 25-year hunting case 14.00
Extra for engraved case.....80 cents
No. 83—7-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 11.35
No. 84—15-jeweled works, 20-year hunting case 13.20

Remember our goods are just exactly as represented, and if you do not find them to be so, we will refund your money.

Address THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Cut Paper Patterns.

These patterns will be mailed to any address at only 10 cents each. In ordering, address your letter, "Pattern Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio." Inclose 10 cents in silver for each pattern ordered. Do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds. Write very plainly the NUMBER and the NAME of each pattern, as it appears under the cut, and also the BUST MEASURE you wish.

Empire Corset Cover, No. 9190.

So many evening gowns and transparent lace waists are worn at present that corset covers, which are extended over the shoulders, cause their wearers considerable annoyance.

Empire corset covers, like the one shown here, are far more desirable for the purpose. This cover is developed in fine white nainsook, with point Venise

9190—Ladies' Empire Corset Cover.
32, 36 and 40 inch bust.

lace for trimming. It is shaped with underarm seams only.

Four backward-turning tucks on each side of the back are stitched from shoulder to belt. The fulness in the front is gathered and arranged on a broad band of lace at the top; near the waist it is drawn in by means of deep tucks that are stitched up part way.

The corset cover is gathered at the lower edge and completed with a narrow belt. It closes invisibly under a band of lace. A circular skirt portion is attached to the belt and fits closely over the hips.

Straps of ribbon attached to the corset cover, back and front, fasten in bows or rosettes on the shoulders; these may be replaced by lace if preferred or omitted altogether and the cover drawn in closely at the top by ribbon passed through broad beading and tied in the center.

Corset covers in this style are made of lawn, batiste, cambric and longcloth. They are usually finished with lace and ribbons.

To make the corset cover in the medium size will require one and three-quarter yards of material thirty-six inches wide. The pattern, No. 9190, is cut in sizes for a 32, 36 and 40-inch bust measure.

Girls' Shirt-Waist Suit, No. 9206.

Smart shirt-waist suits for school wear are a pleasing change from the regulation blouse costumes. The stylish dress shown here is made of dark blue serge with a touch of red velvet to brighten it.

The waist portion is mounted on a fitted body lining that closes in the center back. A narrow, backward-turning tuck extends from shoulder to belt back and front.

Fulness in front is tucked at the neck and blouses stylishly over the velvet belt. Small pockets are applied on each side over the tucks. The back closes invisibly under a center box plait.

A plain collar of serge is trimmed with

9206—Girl's Shirt Waist Suit.
6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

a velvet protector that has fancy tabs in front. The sleeves have broad box plaits on top that are stitched flatly as far as the elbow. The fulness at the wrist is arranged on narrow velvet wristbands, drooping well at the back.

The full skirt is attached to the lower edge of the body portion and fastens at the back. The fancy velvet belt has tabs in front to correspond with those on the collar.

Shirt-waist suits in this mode are developed in flannel, cheviot, covert, cashmere, or any of the fancy striped and plaid fabrics that are manufactured expressly for children's dresses. Silk, velveteen, corduroy, fancy braid and machine stitching are used for trimming.

To make the dress for a child of eight years will require three yards of material thirty-six inches wide, with one-half yard for trimming. The pattern, No. 9206, is cut in sizes for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

BE SURE to give both the number and the name of the pattern, and, the bust measure also.

Misses' Coat With Cape, No. 9199.

Panne zibeline, in a rich shade of red, is here effectively trimmed with black velvet. The blouse portion is shaped with shoulder and underarm seams only. It is plain in the back and has a stylish blouse in front, where the fulness is arranged on a narrow velvet belt.

The blouse closes invisibly, in double-breasted style, under a band of velvet that finishes the neck and front edges. The cape fits well on the shoulders and is quite long. The front is cut in pointed

9199—Misses' Coat with Cape.
12, 14 and 16 years.

tabs on each side, with large chenille ornaments in the ends. A narrow piping of velvet edges the cape.

The skirt portion is fitted with tiny darts at the belt; the fulness at the back is arranged in an underlying plait each side of the center. The skirt or cape may be omitted if so desired.

One-piece bishop sleeves fit the arm closely from shoulder to elbow. They are very wide at the lower edge, where the fulness is arranged on velvet cuffs of unique shaping. The sleeves droop well at the back.

Garments in this style may be made in velvet, corduroy, cloaking, broadcloth or cheviot and trimmed with velvet or stitched bands of self fabric. They may be worn as separate outside garments or made of the same material as the skirt.

To make the coat for a miss of fourteen years will require three yards of material, forty-four inches wide, with three-eighths of a yard of velvet. The pattern, No. 9199, is cut in sizes for misses of 12, 14 and 16 years.

Girls' Dress, No. 9192.

Rough fabrics like zibeline and camel's-hair are not very popular for children's clothes, fashion favoring ladies' cloth,

9192—Girl's Dress.
6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

Venetian, cashmere and other smooth materials for this purpose.

The dress illustrated is made of pale blue Henrietta with blue uncut velvet and white lace trimmings. The waist has for its foundation a fitted body lining that closes in the center back.

Three backward-turning plaits extend from neck to belt in the back and the closing is made with small turquoise buttons. In front there are eight plaits which are fastened with fancy feather stitching, extending over the sleeves to give becoming width to the shoulders. The capes are included in the neck seam with a plain lace collar.

One-piece bishop sleeves are shaped with inside seams and fit the arms closely from shoulder to elbow. They are quite wide at the lower edge, where the fulness is arranged on cuffs that are pointed to match the capes.

A full skirt is gathered at the upper edge and attached to the body portion. The joining is concealed by a narrow belt. The lower part of the skirt is trimmed with lace medallions and the hem secured by fancy stitching.

Dresses in this style may be made with or without the capes. If only one fabric is used the trimming is usually braided or outlined with velvet piping.

To make the dress for a girl of eight will require three yards of material thirty-six inches wide with one yard for trimming. The pattern, No. 9192, is cut in sizes for girls of 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

Plaited Waist, No. 9189, and Skirt, No. 9191.

Pale green louisine is used for this stylish house gown, with Bulgarian embroidery for trimming.

The waist is mounted on a glove-fitted featherbone lining that closes in the center front. The back is plain across the shoulders and drawn down close to the belt where slight fulness is arranged in tiny plaits.

A full vest of lace is permanently attached to the right lining front and fastens invisibly on the left side. Two deep, backward-turning plaits extend from shoulders to belt and are trimmed with small lace bands. Fancy shoulder straps cover the seams and fasten on the sleeves.

Tucks in the upper part of the sleeve are stitched part way to the elbow, providing fulness for a puff that is gathered and attached to a deep fitted cuff. A plain collar of embroidery completes the neck.

The skirt is shaped with a narrow front gore or panel and circular side portions fitted smoothly around the waist and hips with small darts. The closing is made invisibly at the center back under two plaits that are flatly pressed to present a perfectly plain appearance.

Two plaits each side of the front gore are narrow at the top and increase in width toward the lower edge. They are stitched only part way down and flare at the hem.

The side portion is given full length and the flounce may either be applied or finished to form its lower portion, in which case the skirt proper is cut off a seam's depth below the line indicated on the pattern.

In the flounce clusters of three forward turning plaits alternate with plain

9189—Ladies' Plaited Waist.
9191—Ladies' Skirt.
Waist, 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust.
Skirt, 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inch waist.

spaces. The plaits are pressed, but not taped and flare smartly at the hem. The flounce graduates in depth toward the back and is headed by a broad band of embroidery. Small straps are arranged under the plaits at each side.

Costumes in this style are made of voile, veiling, albatross, wool canvas, foulard or taffeta and trimmed with lace, silk, velvet or panne.

To make the waist in the medium size will require two yards of material, forty-four inches wide, with one and one-quarter yards for trimming. The pattern No. 9189, is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40-inch bust measure.

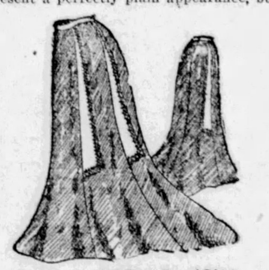
To make the skirt in the medium size will require five and one-quarter yards of material, forty-four inches wide. The pattern, No. 9191, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30-inch waist measure.

Five-Gored Skirt, No. 9187.

There are many tucked and plaited skirts also some flounce models among the new winter designs, but the five-gored skirt still holds an enviable position in the seasons mode's.

A stylish skirt of this kind is shown here developed in marine blue camel's hair, with white broadcloth trimmings.

It has a front gore, narrow sides and wide back gores fitted smoothly around the waist and hips without darts. The fulness at the center back is arranged in an underlying plait at each side of the closing. These plaits are flatly pressed to present a perfectly plain appearance, but



9187—Ladies' Five Gored Skirt.
22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34 inch waist.

may be stitched down part way if preferred.

The skirt is closely adjusted to the knee, but below that point flares smartly. It touches in front and has a graceful sweep at the back.

Long revers of white cloth are included in the side seams reaching about half way down. They are narrow at the belt and increase in width toward the lower edge. The revers are finished with braiding done in fine blue silk cord.

Skirts in this style are made of broadcloth, Venetian, zibeline, corduroy, covert and serge with revers of velvet, silk or cloth. If these are made of self fabric they are heavily machine stitched or braided.

To make the skirt in the medium size, will require four yards of material forty-four inches wide, with three-quarter yard for trimming. The pattern, No. 9187, is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32 and 34-inch waist measure.

Address as follows, including the price of the pattern ordered:

PATTERN DEPARTMENT,
THE BLADE, TOLEDO OHIO

Mrs. Hoar Dead.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Ruth Miller Hoar, wife of Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, died suddenly last night at her home in this city, of angina pectoris.

Wright Brothers Perfecting Their Flying Machine

Kitty Hawk, N. C., Dec. 26.—Profiting by their experience of last week, when they made four successful flights in their new aeroplane, Orville and Wilbur Wright are working upon plans to bring their experiments to a higher state of development.

The brothers are elated over their success in their recent venture, when they drove the machine for an average speed of eight miles an hour.

The Wright brothers are the sons of a bishop in the United Brethren church. They began their experiments in a flying machine in 1901, and have been making improvements ever since. Their machine, weighs 700 pounds, and is borne by huge wings, which have behind them a pair of screw propellers. There is no gas bag or balloon attachment.

TERRIBLE WRECK.

Sixty Persons Killed in a Railway Accident.

Connellsville, Pa., Dec. 24.—When daylight broke there was known to be sixty dead as the result of last night's wreck of the Duquesne limited on the Baltimore & Ohio near Dawson. These bodies filled the temporary morgues in this city and it was believed nearly a score more would be added to the death list before the day was over.

The scene at the wreck is awful. Cars are piled one upon the other, lying sidewise and at angles where only the earth supports them while trucks are piled high upon banks, among the bushes, as though thrown there by a giant hand.

A full 200 yards from the seat of the first trouble lies the engine—a wreck—with battered sides and dismantled trucks where her great speed carried her after she struck the wreck. Almost one hundred yards beyond where the engine toppled over is the forward baggage coach, lying on the slope of a bank where it rests at an angle.

This great train plunging, as it was, through the darkness, at 60 miles an hour, dashed round a curve headlong into a pile of great timbers and was wrecked. The speed of the train sent it plunging ahead as the wheels left the rails and bumped over the ties until the rails were ripped up and out and the great engine fell over.

Two baggage cars dashed on ahead past the dismantled engine, leaving the right of way and plunging down over the bank. The first passenger car, a smoker, pushed past the engine and tilted over toward it at the same time. This car was filled with passengers and nearly all were killed.

Singularly, in such an awful crash, the dead, with a few exceptions, were scalded to death. Scarcely any of them were mangled.

A story of courage and heroism seldom equaled is told of Benjamin Nichols, steward on the dining car. His name is being sung with praises by railroaders and the surviving passengers today. When the terrible slide of the engine dragged the train whirling sideways along the road, Nichols was in the dining car. He was battered from one side to another of the car. Jolting, bumping and swinging, the car finally stopped. It was on the end of the train and it is for this reason that Nichols and others on that car were not injured.

Before the car had made its last lurch Nichols had leaped and was running toward the smoker, which was reduced to a matter of twisted iron and splinters. The crash had torn the escape valve from the top of the engine and the steam was shooting in the car upon the struggling mass of smoking humanity.

The escaping steam was the first thing that attracted the plucky steward. Taking off his coat he ripped and tore the garment until it was in shreds. With this he plugged up the pipe and shut off the steam. Temporary relief had been given the sufferers, but Nichols was not done.

Long before the passengers in the Pullman coaches had stepped to the ground Nichols had taken the first step in the work of rescue. Climbing through a broken window, he leaped into the dark car. The hot, suffocating steam filled the car. The screams of the injured made it confusing what to do. Picking up the first human form at hand Nichols carried it out in the open. Placing the injured victim on the frozen ground, Nichols once more entered the car. By this time other rescuers had arrived. One after another were handed out until five were rescued. At this point the steward was compelled to leap to the ground, being exhausted and overcome by the heat and steam. Other employes entered the car and continued the work of rescue. They were soon rejoined by Nichols, who once more had recovered. For hours the work continued, it being difficult even with the aid of the wreck crew. Many of the victims were wedged between heavy timbers and it was 4 o'clock before all the injured had been removed.

The wreck occurred two miles west of Dawson at 7:45 last evening. The train left Pittsburg last evening, running a few minutes late, in charge of Engineer William Thornley, of Connellsville. When approaching Laurel Run, which is a particularly fine piece of roadbed, the train was running at a high rate of speed. Suddenly the passengers were thrown from their seats by the lightning-like application of the air brakes, and a moment later there was a terrific crash. The train was made up of the baggage, two day coaches, one sleeper, and one dining car, and was carrying, at the time, at the lowest estimate, 150 passengers.

The train ploughed along for a considerable distance and the cars were torn to pieces, passengers, jumping, screaming and falling from the wreck as it tore along. Suddenly the engine swerved to the left and the coaches plunged down over the embankment to the edge of the Youghiougheny river. The minute the cars stopped rolling there was a wild scene. Many were pinioned beneath the wreckage and the screams and cries that rent the air were beyond description. Many were injured and in their made excitement plunged into the river. Others pinioned beneath the timbers pleaded in agonized tones for release. So terrific was the force of the wreck that nearly every passenger suffered a moment's unconsciousness, and many of the able-bodied men were unable to assist in helping the injured from the wreck on account of having fainted.

The wreck was caused by the breaking of the castings on a carload of bridge timbers, on a westbound freight train which had passed Laurel Run, not more than 15 minutes before the ill-fated passenger train. The wreck occurred on a curve and it was impossible for Engineer Thornley to see far enough ahead to detect the timbers that had fallen on the tracks.

The big Atlantic type engine plunged into the timbers at a velocity of 60 miles an hour.

A peculiar feature of the accident is that not a woman was injured, excepting slightly.

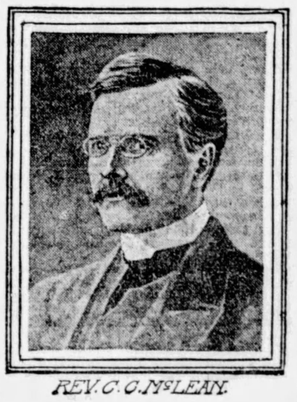
Connellsville, Pa., Dec. 25.—Another name has been added to the long death list resulting from the Duquesne Limited wreck on the Baltimore & Ohio railway at Dawson on Wednesday night. Harry Devlin, one of the remaining patients at the Cottage State hospital, died at 10 o'clock today. The total dead now numbers 65, and this probably completes the list as the two still at the hospital are doing well and will probably recover. Devlin's home was at Lonaconing, Md.

The official investigation into the cause of the disaster is being prosecuted vigorously by the officials of the railroad company, but it is doubtful if any individual will be blamed for the accident. It was apparent that a number of switch ties, which had fallen off a west bound freight train and were strewn upon the passenger track, caused the flying express to be derailed.

OPPOSES TREATING.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—A Chicago minister says treating may not be the worst custom in the world, but it is a pernicious and expensive thing. He would have the law put an end to it. He thinks that it is even worse than the tipping habit.

The pastor who has thrown down the glove to the treating custom is the Rev.



REV. C. C. McLEAN.

C. C. McLean, of the Culver Avenue Methodist church, Oak Park. He is going to ask the legislature to enact a law to prohibit "settin' 'em up." He says it can be done, and that it would not be at all radical.

DESIRES TO MARRY.

Bloomfield, Ind., Dec. 26.—The Rev. Dr. Wallace Ross Covert, pastor of the Church of God in Bloomfield, desires to be married "under certain conditions." Frankly and sincerely he made that statement in a letter to intimate friends. He departs from the usual custom in

REV. WALLACE R. COVERT.

seeking a wife, and in the beginning asserts that, while he desires to marry a woman who will be companionable, she must also have capital, and apparently the more the better, for the minister seems to set store on the amount of money he would receive from a wife.

TESTING TROOP TRANSIT.

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 23.—With the object of ascertaining how quickly troops can be transferred from the Atlantic to the Pacific, a special train which left here yesterday is now rushing across the continent to Esquimault, B. C., with the batteries of Royal Garrison artillery. The train will run through only Canadian territory. To avoid passing through the state of Maine the troops were carried over the government line to Montreal, from which place they will go over the Canadian Pacific road to the west. Attached to the train is an ordinary passenger car, fitted with hammocks and occupied by soldiers, the idea being to test this manner of travel, so that in case of war any car could be fitted up in quick time without waiting for colonist cars. The British war offices ordered the experiment.

APOLOGY ENDS IT.

Alexandretta, Syria, Dec. 23.—Attarin, the naturalized American citizen whose arrest by the Turkish authorities caused United States Consul Davis to leave Alexandretta has been liberated.

The governor of Alexandretta made an official call upon United States Consul and formally apologized for the indignities suffered by the consul.

Admiral Cotton left here last night on the United States cruiser San Francisco for Beirut.

Italy Recognizes Panama.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Acting Secretary of State Loomis has been notified by the Italian embassy that the government of Italy has recognized the new republic of Panama.

AMERICAN SHOES.

Growth of the Export Trade in These Products.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Exports of boots and shoes from the United States show a steady growth, and will for the calendar year about to end aggregate more than $7,000,000 in value. In 1893 they were less than three-quarters of a million dollars in value.

Few of the important articles entering into our export trade show a more rapid growth in exports or a wider distribution than boots and shoes. More than sixty countries and colonies are named by the department of commerce and labor through its bureau of statistics as the destination of the boots and shoes exported from the United States in the year about to end. England, Germany, France, Belgium, Denmark and Netherlands, in the order named, are the chief European customers, and to Europe are sent more than one-third of our total exports of boots and shoes.

In North America Canada, Mexico, Cuba and the British West Indies are the largest consumers of our boots and shoes, while the South and Central American countries also take greater or less quantities, though not in proportion to the amounts taken by the West Indian islands, Mexico and Canada. To Asia the exports of boots and shoes from the United States are small, the British East Indies and China being the chief points of destination for the exports to that continent. Australia is a large importer of boots and shoes from the United States, nearly one-sixth of our exports in that line being to British Australia. Africa is also a considerable importer of boots and shoes from the United States, especially British Africa.

The United States now holds second rank among the world's exporters of boots and shoes, and is making gains at such a rapid rate as to justify the belief that it will soon stand at the head of the list.

The United States now stands easily second in the list of the world's exporters of boots and shoes, while an examination of the relative growth of exports of this class of merchandise from the United Kingdom and the United States, respectively, justifies the conclusion that we shall soon overtake that friendly rival in the race for this contribution to the world's wants and consumption. The value of boots and shoes exported from the United Kingdom in 1893 was $8,250,000, and in 1902 was $9,250,000,000; while from the United States the growth in exports has been from $890,754 in the fiscal year 1893 to $6,182,098 in the fiscal year 1902, which year's figures are used for compartson with the 1902 figures of the United Kingdom. Thus, while the exports of boots and shoes from the United Kingdom have increased a little less than one million dollars those from the United States have increased more than $5,500,000.

Another interesting fact developed in a comparison of the figures of exports of boots and shoes from the United Kingdom and the United States is that the value per pair of the boots and shoes from the United States is apparently about 60 per cent greater than that of those exported from the United Kingdom. The 1902 figures of exports of boots and shoes from the United Kingdom show 9,466,666 pairs, valued at $9,225,923, or 97 cents per pair; while from the United States in the same year the total number of pairs exported was 3,966,766, and the stated value $6,182,098, an average of $1.56 per pair. Thus the average value per pair of boots and shoes exported from the United States is apparently more than 60 per cent in excess of that of boots and shoes exported from the United Kingdom. Yet, despite this higher price for the United States product, the growth in exports of boots and shoes from the United States is, as already indicated, much more rapid than in those from the United Kingdom.

These low average prices are explained by the fact that the statements of pairs and values include infants' and children's shoes as well as those for adults, and the values given are based upon wholesale prices.

The above estimate of more than seven million dollars' value as the exports of boots and shoes from the United States in 1903 relates to the calendar year, for which complete figures are not yet available. The fiscal year figures are, however, complete and shows the total value of boots and shoes exported from the United States in the year ending June 30, 1903, as $6,665,317, the number of pairs being 4,197,566. Of these 4,197,566 pairs exported during the fiscal year, nearly one million (or to be more accurate, 986,150) pairs went to the United Kingdom; while 400,974 pairs went to British North America, 399,482 pairs to the British West Indies, 475,389 pairs to British Africa. Thus practically two-thirds of our exports of boots and shoes went to the territory of the United Kingdom, our chief competitor in supplying the boot and shoe markets of the world.

ANDREWS RELEASED.

Detroit, Mich., Dec. 23.—Accompanied by his attorney and several newspaper men, Frank C. Andrews, former vice president of the wrecked City Savings Bank of this city, who was released from Jackson prison on parole at midnight last night, after serving one year and four months of his fifteen year sentence, arrived in Detroit today. He went immediately to his home. In a brief statement of his intentions now that he is released from prison, Andrews said:

"I am not going to make a formal statement, or say much. I will let my conduct and actions talk. I am going back to work. This is the beginning, not the end.

"My first care will be to clear up the tiresome controversies and the legal tangles, and bring a stop to law proceedings, the continued publicity of which is placing the banking institutions of the city of Detroit in a bad light all over the country and injuring the commercial interests of the town.

"I'll work night and day until I have paid every penny I owe. It is the ambition of my life now to bring about that day. When Governor Bliss, who has been like a father to me, will take my hand, and say to me, 'Frank, you have justified my hopes and my confidence in you. I am proud of my action in unlocking the gates of prison to you.'

"I go out equipped with good health, energy, experience and youth."

THE DIETRICH CASE.

Omaha, Dec. 26.—When the federal grand jury, sitting at Omaha, returned three indictments on November 16 against United States Senator Charles H. Dietrich, of Nebraska, charged with trafficking in the appointment of postmasters, it established a record which has never been equalled. Never before in the history of the country has a United States senator been officially accused of selling government positions.

The grand jury returned another indictment against Senator Dietrich, charging him with violating the law by leasing to the government a building at Hastings, Neb., to be used as a postoffice.

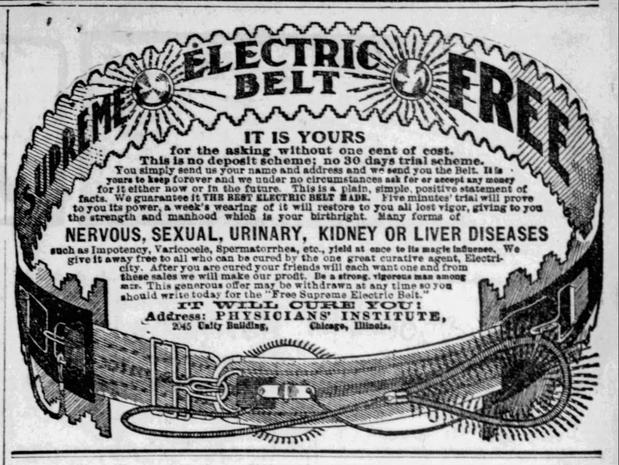
The cattle barons of the West are seeking to punish the alleged criminal. The state Republican machine, the corporations, the military power of the state and every ounce of power these allied forces can control are lined up to protect the senator.

SENATOR WARREN'S CASE

Washington, Dec. 26.—Following a long conference today with Senator Warren, of Wyoming, regarding the latter's interest in a building leased by the government for the postoffice at Cheyenne, Postmaster General Payne today intimated that the case was closed. He said that before the expiration of a previous lease on March 1, 1899, the lessee's wanted the rent raised from $1,400 to $1,900, which Postmaster General Charles Emery Smith deemed exorbitant and he caused an investigation to be made. According to the records, an agent for Senator Warren, in the senator's absence, then executed a lease for a building affording much better quarters, for $1,000 per year for ten years, beginning April 1, 1899. Mr. Payne said that this would have saved the government in ten years $7,000. The postoffice probably will remain in its present quarters until the completion of a government building at Cheyenne, which is expected to be ready for occupancy probably by July next.

Postal Rates Reduced.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Consul General Gudger, at Panama, has notified this government that the republic of Panama has reduced its postal rates 50 per cent. The foreign rate for each 50 pounds or less is equivalent to four cents in United States money and the domestic rate is the equivalent of two cents United States money.



GEN R. L. MEADE.

Commander of Marine Corps on Retired List.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 23.—The case of Col. and Brevet Brig. Gen. Robert L. Meade of the marine corps, which attracted quite a little public attention early in the present year, came to a definite end today with the retirement of that officer from active service on account of disability.

Col. Meade is a brother of Gen. Meade, the victor of Gettysburg. He saw service in the civil and Spanish wars, in the Philippine insurrection and in the Pekin campaign of 1900. For his services in China he was brevetted brigadier general. A few years ago he was charged with drunkenness on duty, while in command of the marine barracks at the Brooklyn navy yard, and was acquitted.

Col. Meade was an applicant for the office of commandant of the marine corps

COL. P. C. POPE.

to succeed Major-General Heywood, and upon the selection of Col. Elliott for that place, he applied for retirement as a brigadier general, his brevet rank. The navy department held that he could not be so retired. Col. Meade then withdrew his application for retirement, and in doing so made some caustic comments upon the manner in which he had been treated.

These comments offended the navy department, which recommended to the President that Col. Meade be summarily retired upon reaching the age of 62 years, two years before the regular time of retirement, a law permitting. Brennan fell into the trap and today called at the postoffice, asked for and was given the package. Signing the receipt, Brennan with a pleased smile on his face turned to walk away, but walked into the arms of four detectives, who had been watching the proceedings.

No formal charge was entered against Brennan last night, but it was said he will be held for the action of the federal authorities. A number of the letters he acknowledges having written have been turned over to the postoffice officials for investigation. Several of the letters also have been given to the police departments of New York and Chicago and still others to private detective agencies. More than 20 of the letters demanding money, it is said, were writen by Brennan.

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BRENNAN CAUGHT.

He Has Been Writing Threatening Letters to People.

Chicago, Dec. 25.—The source of the mysterious letters demanding large sums of money which for the past six months have been received by men high in the financial world of New York and Chicago, was traced to Leo R. Brennan, a commercial artist of Chicago and the young man was placed under arrest as he was leaving the general postoffice, where he had gone in answer to a decoy letter. When confronted with the evidence of his wrong doing Brennan confessed to having attempted to enforce a dozen demands for sums of $25,000 and $50,000 and having threatened his intended victims with death should they refuse to comply with his demands for money. In his confession Brennan declared that all his attempts to extort money had been futile as he never received a dollar in answer to any of his requests.

The New York financiers of whom Brennan demanded money were J. Pierpont Morgan, John D. Rockefeller, James Stillman and Andrew Carnegie. Of each of these men he demanded $50,000 in his first letters, and on receiving no replies, it is said, reduced the amount demanded to $25,000.

Among those in Chicago upon whom Brennan attempted to levy tribute were Marshall Field, R. T. Crane, J. Ogden Armour and G. F. Swift.

None of the Chicago men was asked for more than $25,000 in the case of Marshall Field. Brennan wrote under the name of Wm. Craig. He first asked Mr. Field to leave $25,000 beneath a pillar of a porch at the latter's home. No attention was paid to the letter by Mr. Field until another communication in which the veiled threats in the letter were made plainer, was received from Brennan. In the second letter Brennan demanded that the money be mailed to Mr. Field and displaced the matter in the hands of a detective agency and a correspondence with Brennan was established which led to his arrest yesterday.

A few days ago a decoy letter was sent to Brennan telling him that his demand upon Mr. Field would be acceded to. Then a package was prepared and addressed to "Craig" to be delivered at the registered letter department of the general postoffice. Brennan fell into the trap and today called at the postoffice, asked for and was given the package. Signing the receipt, Brennan with a pleased smile on his face turned to walk away, but walked into the arms of four detectives, who had been watching the proceedings.

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ORIGIN OF ARCTIC RACES

New York, Dec. 23.—Basing his opinions upon data collected by several explorers sent out by Morris K. Jessup, of this city, Dr. Franz Boas, curator of ethnology of the American museum of natural history, has announced his belief that previous theories as to the origin of the American and Asiatic tribes around the north pole are founded in error. The curator declares that the tribes around the Behring sea and east to Greenland are sub-divisions of one race, and that the Esquimaux' position as a distinct race, so long conceded, can no longer be sustained.

"It seems clear," he says, "that the isolated tribes of eastern Siberia and those of the northeast coast of America form the race similar in type, and with many elements of culture in common. The invasion of eastern tribes in America have disturbed the former conditions, but enough remains to lead us to think that the tribes of this whole area must be considered as a single race, or at least that their culture is a single culture, which at one time was found in both the northeastern part of the old world and the northwestern part of the new world."

Heretofore the dwellers of the Arctic region were believed by many scientists to be the oldest existing race, and to be of pregiacial origin.

JOHN MORLEY.

MORLEY'S BIRTHDAY.

London, Dec. 24.—Right Hon. John Morley, statesman and litterateur and prominent in British politics as opposing Mr. Joseph Chamberlain's protective policy, is 65 years old today. Mr. Morley's biography of Gladstone, recently published, has won him high commendation as a scholar and writer. He was born at Blackburn, December 24, 1838.

RADIUM CURES CANCER.

Baltimore, Dec. 23.—Daniel Webster Whitney, of Catonsville, who is in New York city taking the radium treatment for cancer, is reported improving. Mr. Whitney has been afflicted with the disease for the last nine months. His tongue became slightly lacerated from a sharp broken tooth and, not paying any attention to the wound, he let it run on until the organ became so badly swollen that a specialist was called. He pronounced it a cancerous growth.

Mr. Whitney left about a week ago for New York, where, after several exposures, he was greatly benefited. In a letter to a friend he states that the severe pains which he had suffered for the last two months have been greatly relieved and that he is now able to take nourishment several times a day, something that he had not been capable of doing for a month or more, and that the swollen organ has been, in part, reduced.

OUR RAILWAY MILEAGE.

Chicago, Dec. 23.—According to the Railway Age the total railway mileage of the United States on Jan. 1, 1904, will be 209,855 miles, the present year having added 5,723 miles. This mileage takes into account all of the new track laid up to the last days of the year. Compared with 1902, the present year is about on a parity in matter of railroad construction. The construction reported was done on 330 miles and in 25 states and territories including Alaska. Early in the year it was shown that there was 8,500 miles of railroad under construction, but labor troubles and financial difficulties caused some of the work to be abandoned.

S

The HOUSEHOLD And YOUNGFOLKS

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON.

Keynotes of Harmony

Wednesday.

The rarest radiance that lights a human face is the contentment of a loving soul.

Thursday.

Do not sit down supinely, and do not despair. Your efforts may seem to fail but they do not. Each one adds to your own strength; each one adds to your own power to conquer.

Friday.

Let us know, once and for all, that through the use of our own minds will come the truest and best solution of all questions presenting themselves to us in life.

Saturday.

Self-pity is a grievous fault and weakness. We cannot see straight nor clearly while we permit it to remain.

Sunday

With our thought we shape and direct the force of life, giving it form in the outer world. Let us think, then, the God thoughts, creative and upbuilding thoughts, making for health of mind and strength of body.

Monday.

Fear always weakens; Faith strengthens. Fear brings about you a host of negative vibrations, which seek to mislead you. Faith brings you out into the clear, bright sunlight of eternal truth.

Tuesday.

"Faith that increaseth, walking in light;
Hope that endureth, happy and bright;
Love that is perfect, casting out fear—
These shall ensure thee a Happy New Year."

OUT OF THE OLD! INTO THE NEW!

Emily S. Bouton.

—New—Other than the former or the old; changed from the former state, physical, mental, moral or spiritual of the same person.

So runs the definition in the dictionary. There is magic in the word!

Not that change always means growth in the right direction; not that the New invariably brings betterment, but in it are untried opportunities which Hope whispers are big with success and happiness.

And we believe we shall seize them!

The New, we are sure, will not find us unheeding and careless as did the Old. For that carelessness we are paying the penalty. Ship after ship carrying our hearts' desires went sailing by which we might have hailed, but did not until the tide had borne them beyond our reach. Out of the New they came; into the Old they have gone beyond us forever.

How this consciousness weighs upon us, filling us with doubts and fears, diminishing our strength even while resolving that not again will the present find us looking regretfully backward into the past, or gazing forward into the future. Of the two conditions, however, the first is the most useless.

I found a poem in the Woman's Tribune the other day, the author of which was not given, but its caption was Old Past, Let Go. It runs in this wise:

My Soul is sailing through the sea,
But the Past is heavy and hindereth me.
The Past hath crusted, cumbrous shells
That hold the flesh of old sea mells
About my soul.
The huge waves wash, the high waves roll,
Each barnacle clingeth and worketh dole,
And hindereth me from sailing.

Only the youthful and buoyant whose life stretches out before them fair and beautiful, can read these lines without feeling the truth contained therein. The "crusted, cumbrous shells" of the past do cling and cling, and hinder us from taking advantage of the fresh breezes of the New to sail boldly onward. The poet's song continues:

Old Past, let go and drop i' the sea
Till fathomless waters cover thee;
For I am living, but thou art dead,
Thou drawest back. I strive with thee
The day to find.
Thy shells unbind! -Night comes behind.
I needs must hurry with the wind,
And trim me best for sailing."

This is the work we are to hasten in the doing, for the New Year comes apace. Let the Past sink "into the fathomless waters" so that the New may be greeted with steady brain, with willing heart, with strong hands.

And yet not all of the Past! There are sweet memories which we would have linger, for they are an earnest of future joys. Nor would we be rid of the strong thoughts of great souls that have inspired us to right effort. In no sense can these be named "barnacles which worketh dole," and of which we are to let go. The "shells" which bind our souls are things that tend to weaken our faith in the good; that increase corroding fears; that strengthen our resentments and our hates; that lower our ideals; that diminish our confidence in the Divine which is struggling for expression in others as in ourselves. Let them go.

The New Year is drawing near!

Again I go back to my first thought of the magic lying in the word as defined in the beginning—a change from old conditions; a development of the new. For to most people there comes with the thought, a hope that present joys may grow into greater ones; that sorrows may be softened; that pain will be lessened.

Naturally the "New" will bear a different meaning to us all as the years roll by. Each one changes our hopes, our aspirations, our ideals. Happy indeed are they who, facing the sunset of physical being, are conscious that through "service," the New holds for them only the radiance of the higher life.

I am reminded of this by reading of one who, within a day or two, has passed the eigthieth mile stone of his career—Thomas Wentworth Higginson. From his boyhood he has been thrilled with the desire to serve his fellows. Bravely he fought the battle for the slave, when to be in sympathy with his wrongs was to challenge the scorn of the so-called higher classes, and the hatred, through lack of understanding, of the lower. Thinking only of what it would mean to the cause, and true to his principles, he headed the first colored regiment in the Civil War. His record as a soldier was untarnished from first to last.

Women have special reason for gratitude to Mr Higginson. Believing with his whole strength of heart and soul in equal rights, equal opportunities for all people, standing "uncompromisingly for the freedom and dignity of womanhood," one of the objects of his life has been higher education for women, and he has lived to see the doors swing open to them in all directions. He has also been always a firm and consistent advocate for woman suffrage. To deep convictions on all these changes which seemed to him intrinsically just, he has added, says the Woman's Journal editorially, "the sweeping force of his logic, the brilliancy of his wit, the grace of pure and exquisite diction, the charm of a courtly and distinguished presence, making him an advocate of whom women have reason to be proud—one who has

'Borne without abuse
The grand old name of gentleman.' "

With such a past of usefulness, of constant living towards high ideals, the New holds nothing for him to look forward to that is not clothed with unfading joy. And so with all who have served others in forgetfulness of self.

In a little book entitled The Story of the Year, I find something which is especially appropriate to the opening of the New Year. It is the formula given to the disciple who has voluntarily entered upon the path to the "higher life," at the ceremony of his consecration, but is equally applicable to all of us as a governing power in the New. It reads thus:

"I devote the spirit which is being born within me to the service of the Spirit of Love.

"In this coming year I will dwell in the Sanctuary of Love.

"I will not offend against the laws of that sanctuary of the soul.

"I will remember that I have not to ask love, but to give love; that I have to give of my very self to the world.

"I will molest none; I will forgive all."

Repeating these affirmations at the beginning of each day, and we shall find that the wheels of life will run with far less friction, and the swifter carry us to real and enduring happiness.

May the New Year bring to each and all readers of The Blade the gifts most needed for their material welfare, but above and beyond this, whatever will best conduce to their spiritual well-being.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO EVERY ONE

The Merry-Go-Rounds.

THROUGH GREAT TRIBULATION

A New Year's Story.

BY BROTHER JONATHAN.

It was a calm, clear night in midwinter and as the moon lifted her big, round face above the hills, she cast her beams over the world to see what there might be that was new since her last visit. As she pursued her journey, she looked down upon the village of Milan, and though she had passed over many other places in her journey, none seemed so peaceful as this little town among the hills. In passing she looked into the homes of the people saying "Surely I shall find happiness here."

But it was here as everywhere—in some homes there was nothing but happiness, while in others there were to be seen traces of deep sorrow, especially where a loved one had gone forth from the circle of dear ones never to return, and where the tears still fell at the thought of the new, little mound in the churchyard.

Passing on to the poorer section of the town, the moon saw a sight in one of the houses, that made her draw near to gaze upon it. A lovely little girl about ten years of age, with long, curling hair, eyes the color of the sky on a June day, and cheeks like roses, was kneeling at her mother's knee saying her evening prayer. And this was what the moon heard:

"God forgive my dear papa, and help him to be a good man."

Her mother, whose face showed the traces of former beauty—now, alas! nearly destroyed by grief and tears—had married against the wishes of her parents, who, therefore, refused to give her any dowry. She had left a home of luxury and ease, for one suitable to the small income of a clerk on a moderate salary. For a time all went well and when little Jeannette came, their happiness seemed complete.

Even into this Eden, however, came the serpent. The husband fell in with some "jolly good fellows," who taught him to drink and soon the habit became so fixed that he became incompetent to do his work and so lost his situation. Matters went on from bad to worse until they were obliged to leave their pleasant home and take up a residence in the poorest quarter of the town, where we find them now, living on the occasional bits of work the husband was able to obtain. He was not bad, or improvident at heart; he had simply become a slave to the habit of drink and not even the suffering of his wife and child could induce him to break away from his bondage.

The next night the moon came again, but at a later hour. Again she paused at the home and this time, saw the little girl standing before her father, holding his hand. The moonbeam stole into the room and stood by her side.

"Papa," she said, "this is New Year's eve; won't you stay at home with us tonight? You haven't been home an evening for so long and it will make us very happy if you will."

The father's face flushed, and he hesitated for a moment, then said: "Yes, Jeannie, I will stay with you tonight. I will just go up town and buy a newspaper and come right back." The mother's face brightened with pleasure for a moment; then as she recalled the many, many times he had made, and broken, such promises, the light died out of her eyes.

As her father passed out of the door, Jeannie watched him from the window. Turning to her mother she said: "How bright the moon is tonight, yet it looks sad, as if it had something to tell me. I wonder if it has?"

The father had been gone an hour and there was no sign of his return. He had, indeed, started for the news-stand, but in passing the saloon some of his companions who were inside saw him, and called him in. The voice of the tempter was sweet in his ears and he succumbed. At home the mother and child waited. Finally the child said: "I will go and meet papa, he must surely be on his way home and the moon is so bright I shall not be afraid."

Catching her shawl she ran out of the house and down the street. Passing the saloon, she was shocked to see her father staggering out of the door. Running up to him she called: "Papa, I have come to meet you, let me walk home with you?" Whiskey had roused an ungovernable demon within him, and with an oath he raised his hand and struck her a terrible blow over her temple, felling her to the ground. The moon hid her face behind a passing cloud and shuddered.

* * * * * * *

New Year's day was a sad one in that broken-hearted; her Jeannette was dead and her husband sentenced to a living death, and all because of the power of strong drink.

After serving a term of five years, friends of the wife interested themselves and obtained his pardon and he returned to his home changed and truly repentant by all. His life since his imprisonment has been devoted to driving the saloons out of his native town, and on the site of the one where he committed his great crime stands a library.

To his devoted wife has come the peace and happiness of her life, but in all of their joy there remains the sad memory of the child who gave her life that her father might live.

As the bells chime out the passing of the old year and the coming of the new, with its hopes and possibilities, may we not take it as an emblem of the passing of our lives into new and better ones in the grand opportunities, possibilities and privileges of the future?

How about those New Year's resolutions? How have you each kept those you made a year ago? Let us all follow the advice given us by one of our members and make our resolutions for 1904, each morning, and let one of them be that no day shall pass without our doing at least one kind thing for some one; further, let us keep a strict account, and next New Year's day report how many "dark days"—or days when we have failed to do this—we have on our record.

Miss Prudence wishes for each and every one of her girls and boys a successful, happy year.

"GOD FORGIVE MY DEAR PAPA AND HELP HIM TO BE A GOOD MAN."

EVENIN'.

De shadows creepin' closer,
De sun has hung his haid;
Hit's time mah pickaninny,
Dat yo' was in yo' bed.

De crickets all am singin',
De birds am gone ter rest;
Come to yo' mammy honey—
Come rest upon her breast.

De evenin' star has peeped out
His one po' li'l' eye;
He looks so mighty lonesome,
Way up dar in de sky.

Now all de pretty colors
Am faded from de west;
Come to yo' mamy honey—
Come chile, and tak' yo' rest.

—Emily Zenaide Hughes.

GOOD TO KNOW

To remove mildew, wine or rust stains from silk or linen, boil one pound of any good soap to a stiff paste with rain water. Apply this to the stains and scatter over it some finely powdered potash. Let the goods lie on the grass for twenty-four hours, and then wash with rain water.

A much advertised preparation for removing grease and dirt from clothing of any kind is made thus: Put four parts by weight, of rectified oil of turpentine, one part of anhydrous spirit of wine, and one part of ether—all measured by weight—into a clean, dry bottle; shake thoroughly and close the bottle hermetically. When used, free the garment to be cleaned from all loose dust, place a blotter under the spots and rub with a cloth wet with the preparation; then wash the spot with a clean cloth dipped in clear water. For recent spots, one application will be all that is needed, but for old spots several may be necessary. Dry goods in the shade, and press while damp.

When you have taken down your wire screens from doors and windows, before storing them for the winter, paint them with kerosene to prevent them from rusting. In the spring go over the wires with a little black paint and over the frames with some varnish, and your door and window screens will look like new and last twice as long as if neglected.

"If cold December gave you birth—
The month of ice, and snow, and mirth—
Place on your hand a turquoise blue,
Success will bless whate'er you do."

"Monday's child is fair in the face,
Tuesday's child is full of grace,
Wednesday's child is a child of woe,
Thursday's child has far to go.
Friday's child is loving and giving,
Saturday's child must work hard for a living,
But the child that is born on the Sabbath day,
Is wise and good and bonny and gay."

A convenient and inexpensive "baby walker" can be made at home from an old chair. Remove the seat and back of the chair and shorten the legs so the frame of the seat will come just under the baby's arms when she is standing on her feet. Make a triangle about fifteen inches on the edges—of ticking, or any strong cloth. Adjust these straps so the baby's feet will touch the floor when she is sitting astride of one strap. Place small castors on the legs of the frame, and then let Miss Baby enjoy her new chair.

It will enable a child to use its feet without bearing the full weight of the body on them too soon. It quickly learns to propel the chair about the house, and saves the mother much care.

There was never a time when so many things—useful and beautiful—could be made from handkerchiefs. Corset covers, corsage ruffles, aprons, caps, pillow covers and kimonos—all are fashioned from one or more of these articles. A corsage ruffle—an indispensable adjunct to shirt waists—is made of two uncut handkerchiefs folded so that the border of one-half of each is directly above the other border; the two are then gathered into a band at the doubled edge and fastened across the front of the corset.

As the result of the new child-labor law which forbids the employment of boys or girls under fourteen years of age, 1,300 child-workers have been taken out of shops and factories by the inspectors and many more discharged by the employers. It is to be hoped that the compulsory education law will now be put into effect.

"Estelle" writes to ask what we would think of a necktie case made of ivory-white and pale-blue satin, as a Christmas gift for her to give to her "young man"—adding that they have "been engaged for some time."

We think such a "case" would be very beautiful, but if her "young man" is like the majority he will lay it carefully away in the drawer of his dresser and go right on hanging his ties over the arm of the gas-jet. Such dainty articles are too good for ordinary daily use and would fare badly in the care of the average chambermaid of a boarding house.

Estelle had better buy a large towering and fasten to it a ribbon by which it can be hung to the gas-bracket, or side of the looking-glass in the young man's room, and the chances are that he will use it—and think of Estelle—much oftener than one of ivory-white and pale-blue satin, dainty as that might be.

For gifts at a second wedding anniversary—which is designated as the "paper" anniversary—books, stationery, subscriptions to magazines, pictures, etchings, etc., will be appropriate. The cover for the table and the napkins will be of crepe paper and everything in the way of decoration for the rooms should be made of paper.

EF ON'Y I WUZ A BOY.

Ef on'y I wuz a boy,
I wud have the mostest fun,
'N' whistle, 'n' holler, 'n' fight, 'n' run,
Jus' like a boy's orful bad;
'Stead like gurls 's, alwuz sad.
Ef on'y I wuz a boy!

Ef on'y I wuz a boy,
I wud have a watch what really goes,
'N' wear a nice, blue suit o' clo'es,
Wid pants, so I cud slide down stairs;
'N' not like skirts, wut always tears,
Ef on'y I wuz a boy!

Ef on'y I wuz a boy,
I cud play hooky, 'n' fish,
'N' wouldn't mind the teacher's swish,
Like gurls, what cries fur a lickin'
I wud never do no kickin'
Ef on y I wuz a boy!

—From The Grown Baby Book.
Copyright, The Gorham Press.

SOME DOG AND CAT TALES.

A Doctor's Intelligent Cat.

Cats are very fond of catnip, and they seem to like the dried herb that comes from the druggist's better than the growing plant. If you never have given your pet kitten catnip, try it some time and see how happy it will make it and how funny it will act.

A doctor in Ft. Wayne, Indiana, wrote to Mr. George T. Angell, the editor of a little paper called Dumb Animals, telling him a story about his office cat. This is the story:

Early last winter a small black kitten was given me by the keeper of a restaurant. I took him to my office and home, which are together, the former having an outside door from both the reception and private room, opening onto steps leading to the pavement.

The kitten was named "Rigel," was very playful, full of reasoning in all his play, and soon grew to be a large cat.

Snow covered the ground most of the winter, and catnip could not easily be had by the cats. One day while sitting at the desk I noticed my cat climbing up a set of shelves which contained medicine and drugs in bottles and boxes. When he reached the fifth shelf from the floor he carefully reached with his paw a small packet, pulled it out and dropped it to the floor. Nothing else was touched. He jumped down, smelled of the paper, then came to me and mewed and ran to his find, which on picking up I found to be an unopened five-cent packet of catnip. I broke it and gave a part to him on a paper. He ate of it, then rolled in it and enjoyed a real feast.

In the evening of the same day, while relating this to a friend, a mewing and scratching was heard at the door. I opened it and in came Rigel and with him a large white cat. Rigel repeated his performance of getting the catnip, then sat by and seemed pleased to see his friend enjoy it.

About a week after, the white cat and a maltese came in, and a third time my cat succeeded in getting the packet without disturbing another box. After they had partaken to their satisfaction, I put them on the walk and my friend and I watched them in their play.

They seemed to be having a real thanksgiving frolic.

The Dog Remembered.

A gentleman who is a great traveler, and who is always accompanied in his wanderings by a bull terrier, to which he is much attached, arrived one day in the city of Florence. His dog was for some reason intrusted to the care of a porter at the station, and in the excitement of the crowd and under the unusual experience of being separated from his master, who generally kept the animal with him, Bruno was moved to make his escape.

The most careful search was made and before going to his hotel the traveler went to the police station to notify the gens d'armes of his loss. It was more than an hour before he reached his hotel. When he got there he spoke of his loss, "The dog is here!" repeated the gentleman, in surprise. "How came he here?"

"He ran in sir, about half an hour ago, and after snuffing about the office for a little while he ran upstairs. I gave orders to have him driven out, but the boys have been busy, and he is up there somewhere now."

The traveler, of course, went up stairs at once, and there on the mat before the chamber numbered forty-four lay Bruno, who sprang up with the most frantic demonstrations of delight at finding his master again.

The gentleman remembered that two years previous he had been with the dog in Florence, and had staid at this hotel. He did not remember that he had occupied this particular room, but on reference to the hotel register such was found to be the fact.

The Jogerfy Lesson.

Of isthmuses, continents, capes and canals
The pupils had shown off their knowledge most fully.
Said the senior director, "The 'b'ys and the gals
Hev sartinly got up their jogerfy bully.
Jist one other question I'd like to perpound,
What is a volcaner? Who'll tell for a penny?"
A moment of silence, intense and profound.
"Hit's a mountain whut's sick at the stomick," said Bennie.
—Christmas Lippincott's.

TURNING THE TABLES.

"NOW, SPEAK, BABY, SPEAK!" From Little Folks.

Banner Puzzlers

For November.

New Work—Hawkeye. Solutions—U No Hoo.

1—WHO WAS HE?

He was born in Madison, Ky., on the 24th day of December, 1809. His father soon after moved to Missouri, where he worked two years with David Workman, a saddler. In 1826 he joined a party going overland to Santa Fe. In the spring of 1827, finding no employment, he started back, and after traveling 450 miles, or about one-half of the distance to his old home, he met a party of traders who offered him work, and turned back with them to Santa Fe. He was appointed colonel in the army, and, with 2,000 picked men, captured 10,000 Indians, the greatest number ever captured at one time. He was breveted with the rank of brigadier-general of volunteers. He died May 22, 1868, at Fort Lynn.

PERRY CROSS.

2.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

Two men start from one corner of a park one mile square and travel at the same rate. A goes by the walk around the park, and B takes the diagonal path to the opposite corner, turning to meet A at the side. How many rods from the corner will the meeting take place?

HAWKEYE.

3.—DOUBLE-TRIANGLE.

```
                o
              x o x
            x x o x x
          x x x o x x x
                o
              x o x
            x x o x x
          x x x o x x x
```

1.—A consonant.
2.—A word expressing negation.
3.—A month of the year.
4.—A day of the week.
5.—A vowel.
6.—A bird.
7.—A grain.
8.—A place where metals are cast.
Centrals name some early explorers of America.

METTA.

4.—PRINTER'S PI.

"Slt catsiden sneld cant ment hen ot eth wive.
Dan bores eht tinmanou ni slt reazu uhe."

U NOO HOO.

5.—QUERY.

Who can explain the formation of a lipogram?

CLEO DAVIS.

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote—
"The seas are quiet when the winds give o'er;
So, calm are we when passions are no more.
For then we know how vain it was to boast
Of fleeting things, too certain to be lost."

W. C. MOLLETT.

Answers to Puzzles of Dec. 17.

1.—William Pitt.
2.—221.37 ft. by 590.32 ft. (See Chat.)
3.—Words forming diamond: T, she, stuns, thunder, Endor, ser, R.
4.—"My mind to me a kingdom is,
Such perfect joy therein I find
As far exceeds all earthly bliss
That God or Nature hath designed."
5.—The Holy Grail was the cup out of which Christ and his disciples drank at the last supper. After His crucifixion it was lost, and the attempt to find it was a favorite quest of the knights of the middle ages. As no one could find it who was not perfectly pure both in thought and deed, it is needless to say that the cup was never found.
6.—Longfellow wrote:
"Art is long and time is fleeting,
And our hearts, though stout and brave,
Still, like muffled drums are beating
Funeral marches to the grave."

Chat.

The solution of the problem answered today is this:

A piece of land ¾ as wide as long, equals a piece of land containing 24 small pieces arranged in a rectangular form, 3 parts wide, and 8 parts long; 480 divided by 24 equals 20 sq. rd. in each small piece; 20 sq. rd. equals 5.445 sq. ft. Extracting the sq. rt. of 5.445 sq. ft. we obtain 73.79+ ft., which, multiplied by 3, equals the width, and multiplied by 8 equals the length of the three acres.

It being the last day of the year, the Schoolmistress feels called upon to make a little speech to all her pupils, wherever they happen to be, or whatever they happen to be doing. As this is a crime she is not often guilty of (except, of course, when their conduct demands a brief admonition) she trusts that they will bear with her patiently.

Firstly, she wishes to thank every one who has helped to make the Column interesting through the year just ending.

Secondly, she wishes to say to those "silent partners" of the Column who enjoy it without adding to its efficiency, that she hopes they will turn over a new leaf tomorrow, and decide to at least send in the solutions they make out, even if they cannot make up new work.

As a clerk or traveling salesman is rated according to the custom he brings to the store, so every department in a newspaper is reckoned necessary or unnecessary according to the amount of correspondence it excites, and when the Wonder Column letters are few and far between, the management begins to "wonder" a little itself as to whether many many people are interested in the puzzles, or whether it would not be better to devote the space given to them to something else.

Bearing this in mind, and realizing that the life of the Column depends on the interest taken in it by The Blade readers, the Schoolmistress is sure that every one will 'lend a hand' and make this department better than ever before, in the year 1904.

And now, with best wishes for all for the coming New Year, school is dismissed for 1903.

The Cozy Corner

EXCELLENT SUGGESTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

I have written these suggetions for the benefit of the "Ruths and Naomis" all over our land, hoping that through the medium of The Blade they may help to smooth the rough places in life for these friends, and for their families:

My dear friends, there lives near you a gardener who has a most wonderful tree, and he is giving away slips from it to all who will ask for them, to plant in their homes this winter.

Be sure to get one of these slips and plant it in the garden of your mind; it will bear abundantly of buds of forgiveness, flowers of love, fruit of joy and leaves of rest. The name of this wonderful tree is the tree of perfect life.

There will be days, and days, this winter, when you may see no one except your own husband and children; shall these be lonely, irritating and irksome days, or shall they be cheerful, happy, nerve-resting days? It is for you to decide. If your slips are growing nicely—and there are full directions for their care in the Book that goes with each one—the house will be filled with fragrance and sunshine.

When you talk over a subject upon which all may not agree, sniff these fragrant buds and flowers, and you will be enabled to in "honor prefer one another," and the smiles on your face will brighten the cloudy skies. She whose duty it may be to decide the vexed question, will do so in all kindness, and the others will graciously accede to her decision.

If one heart gets a word-wound, do not let it remain unhealed, but quickly apply an ointment made from the "leaves of healing" on your beautiful tree, and the wound will soon heal, leaving no trace of hardness in the heart.

This generous Gardener is our Heavenly Father, and the leaves, buds, flowers and fruits the spirit of love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance.

"If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another."

I am your friend,
JOHN MAKEPEACE.

A PLEA FOR DUMB ANIMALS.

Dear Sisters of the Cozy Corner, you all must know of the unnecessary pain that is inflicted in the killing of birds and animals, for food, or for dress for men—and women. Without going into the cruel details, or the value of flesh food, I ask that all who agree with me that more teaching of kindness to those who cannot speak for themselves—more teaching of this in our schools and elsewhere—would be better than so much teaching and talking of "how to dress" and "how to cook;" all who think the education of the mental and physical part of our natures should not entirely supersede the spiritual, the body to be cared for at the expense of the soul—will you join me in a request to our good editor that she shall give a little room on her household page where any who wish may speak a word for protection and mercy for the Dumb Animals?—"Old Subscriber," Minnesota.

The editor will be very glad to hear from the Household upon this most important subject.

ANSWER TO "YOUNG MOTHER."

Your baby needs her mother's care and attention now more than at any other time of her life. Now is the time she is learning many new things, and having many new and painful experiences; she will be cutting her teeth, learning to sit alone, to creep and walk, and to become accustomed to the many, many strange things that will meet her every day.

I am the mother of eight children, and I believe that the first six years of a child's life are the most important in forming their future character. What they learn then remains with them all of their lives.

You can teach them to eat and drink properly as well as to allow them to be careless in these things; they can be taught politeness and kindness, and the little courtesies of life during these years when their minds are so receptive, and these lessons will be so firmly impressed upon them that they will never forget them.

If your little girl is "nervous," as you say, you should be very quiet in all your dealings with her and not allow her to become unnecessarily excited, until she is older, when, in all probability, she will outgrow this weakness. Never let her "cry it out" and never scold or whip her. Reason with her; tell her why she should do or not to do any special thing and she will learn obedience from the highest thought, i. e., because it is right that she should obey.

It will pay you to keep a maid to do your housework, leaving your time free to care for the child, even though you pay the maid $2 a week, lest by being obliged to neglect your baby in order to do the work, you have to pay the doctor much more, and perhaps lose the child also.—"Sofa," Iowa.

"E. Collver," the name you ask about, is the nom-de-plume of an M. G. R. girl, who lives in the state. There is no city of the name that we know of.

The editor of the Cozy Corner calls the attention of its readers to the "information" given by the "School Mistress" in her little speech to the Wonder Column students this week, and to suggest that this information applies equally to the Cozy Corner. If it is not of sufficient interest to induce our friends to take an active part in the various subjects brought in for discussion, it has failed in its object; if it has not failed, let us know by your letters next year.

In the M. G. R. and Wonder Column, especial effort is to be made during 1904; the "Cook" promises that she will do her best to cater to the wants of the "inner man"—and of the woman who must cook for the "i. m." and it is not to be thought of that the Cozy Corner will fall behind in the attempt to make this page a most interesting one during the year of 1904.

To all who have, in the past, assisted in making this page of interest, to those who, by their kind and appreciative letters, have cheered and encouraged us, and to the new friends we hope to make in the future, the editor extends the most sincere wishes for a happy and successful New Year.

JAPANESE ARMY SCENES FROM BARRACKS AT TOKIO

MARCHING IN BARRACKS COURT YARD

OFFICER GIVING AN ORDER

FIRING CLASS

London, Dec. 24.—"Now or Never" is the heading one paper, the St. James Gazette, puts on its leading article, in which it declares that Japan will strike before the Russian squadron, now assembling at Bizerta can accomplish its necessarily leisurely journey to the scene of action in the far east.

This represents the extremist view for, although London, generally speaking, is convinced that war is the almost inevitable outcome of the situation, many good judges think peace will not be violated for some time.

CZAR FOR PEACE.

Will Try to Stave Off a Conflict With Japan.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—The consensus of official opinion among those associated with the government, but not responsible therefor, is that the czar is so peacefully disposed that he will make such concessions to Japan as are necessary to prevent war, provided that no unforeseen events force the hands of the governments concerned. At the same time the czar, it is pointed out, agrees with those who believe that preparation for war is the best safeguard of peace, and that apparent willingness to allow matters to be submitted to the test of arms is more likely to lead to a satisfactory compromise than an exhibition of overmuch peacefulness. This unofficial opinion, however, believes the controlling party in Russia regards Corea as necessary to the consolidation of Russian interests in the far east, and, therefore, is determined to prevent the peninsula falling into Japanese hands, and that any concessions Russia now makes to Japan will only be with the object of deferring the difficulty until more seasonable time. There is not likely to be much difficulty in finding money in case of war. A foreign loan on acceptable terms is probably impossible, but the Russian banks and merchants have ample funds on which the government could draw.

One reason why the British alarmist news fails to convince the Russians is the perfect understanding here of the benefits Great Britain derives from a continuance of the strained situation. It was known here a year ago that Great Britain was planning to occupy Thibet and extend the railroad to a point in the Yang Tse valley, which is reachable by gunboats from the sea. Great Britain's forward movement at this time excites both admiration and rage, the former for the clever political move, the latter because Russia is so preoccupied in the far east that she is unable to prevent Great Britain from creating her own Manchuria in the Yang Tse provinces. It is pointed out here that the present situation affords Great Britain the same opportunity as actual war between Russia and any third power.

Tokio, Dec. 28.—An important joint meeting of the cabinet and privy council will take place today to consider ways and means in view of the grave situation, but no difficulty is anticipated in providing for the extraordinary expenditure, including the completion of the Seoul-Fusan railway.

It is believed that unless Russia modifies her reply, Japan will immediately safeguard Corea, though such a step will not necessarily mean war with Russia.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—The Russian government is noting with the closest attention and keenest interest the quite uncommon energy now being shown by the Chinese in making warlike preparations, under the guidance of a large number of Japanese instructors. This has grown so serious as to come into the first line of Russia's calculations, broadening out the situation on quite new lines. Such a complication would bring into play the Franco-Russian and Anglo-Japanese treaties.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 28.—It is announced here that the Argentine men-of-war Moreno and Rivadavia, built at the Ansaldos yards in Italy, have been recently sold by the mediation of the English firm of Antony Gibbs & Co., for $7,500,000, but the government does not say which nation is the real purchaser.

London, Dec. 28.—An admiralty order issued at Portsmouth requires the officers and men of the British naval reserve to notify the authorities of the addresses where telegrams can be sent in case of emergency, should they be required for active service. The order is generally connected with the rumors that the fleet in the far east is to be strengthened, concerning which, however, the authorities here profess ignorance.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 28.—The Russian government has just placed an order with Armour & Co., of this city, for a million and a half pounds of mess meat for immediate shipment to San Francisco. The order calls for the delivery of the meat at San Francisco by January 22. The meat, is is said, is for the use of the Russian army and its destination is said to be Port Arthur.

London, Dec. 28.—Japan is negotiating for the purchase of the Argentine warships Mereno and Rivadavia, now building at Genoa, Italy, but up to this afternoon the Japanese legation has not heard of the completion of their purchase.

MORE MARINES.

Philadelphia, Dec. 28.—The auxiliary cruiser Dixie sailed from the League Island navy yard today en route for Colon, carrying 600 marines and five months' living and fighting supplies for 1,000 men. Six companies of marines divided into two battalions sailed on the Dixie.

Company A is composed of men from Boston; Company B, Washington; Company C, Annapolis; Company D, Philadelphia, and Companies E and F, Brooklyn.

San Francisco, Dec. 28.—Nearly a trainload of army supplies, hospital tents and blankets have arrived here under rush orders, having been expressed by the government from Omaha to the superintendent of the transport service in this city. The consignment had been carried on the fastest trains through the west.

PISO'S CURE FOR CURES WHERE ALL ELSE FAILS. Best Cough Syrup. Tastes Good. Use in time. Sold by druggists. CONSUMPTION

JAPAN'S WAR CREDIT

Emergency Ordinances Promulgated at Tokio.

Tokio, Dec. 29.—An emergency ordinance promulgated late last night invests the government with practically unlimited credit for the purpose of military defense.

Three other ordinances were issued relating, first, to the Seoul-Fusan railway, which is brought closer under official control; second, to the revision of the organization of the imperial military headquarters in war time; third, to the creation of a war council in war time.

These ordinances, it is considered, completely provide for all emergencies.

Batteries for Army in China.

Moscow, Dec. 29.—Twelve batteries of the Four Grenadier Brigades of field artillery, stationed in and around Moscow have been selected for service in the far east and have received new guns, which the Russian artillerists claim are superior to the French field pieces. The early departure of three of these batteries is expected which will place 108 field guns, with the latest equipment, at the disposal of Viceroy Alexiff.

It is said here that all the volunteers living at their homes, who, as graduates of high schools are privileged to serve only a year with the colors, have been ordered into barracks.

No extensive movements of troops eastward have been reported here up to the present.

New Monopoly to Raise Revenue.

Moscow, Dec. 29.—The government is considering making the sale of tea and sugar a state monopoly, as proposed by M. Witte while finance minister. There is much opposition to the proposal on the part of the tea trade and the grocers, but the growing needs of the treasury and the exhaustion of other resources, as pointed out in M. Witte's last budget, are believed in well-informed circles to make the adoption of the proposition probable.

The present brandy monopoly yields upwards of $300,000,000 yearly, about one-fourth of the revenues of the empire, and the monopoly of tea and sugar is expected to be even more profitable, as the expenses of its operation will be small.

Russia Buying Beef.

San Francisco, Dec. 29.—Getz Bros. & Co. have contracted with the Russian government to supply 3,000,000 pounds of beef and Getz Bros. & Co are making demands on the big packers in the west, having already placed an order for one million pounds with Cudahy & Co., to be delivered in San Francisco.

American Flour for Japan.

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 29.—Within the past eight business days, Minneapolis mills have booked almost 100,000 barrels of flour for export to Japan. There was further inquiry reported to day and it is not unlikely more business will result.

For some time Japan has been a heavy buyer of American flour. The millers are reticent about discussing the Japan business, but admit that the orders are still coming, and one large company alone is known to have booked close to 50,000 barrels, within a day or two. The Japanese government has bought no flour direct.

BUCHANAN AT PANAMA.

Panama, Dec. 23.—W. I. Buchanan, United States minister to the republic of Panama, arrived here yesterday, accompanied by United States Consul General Gudger, who met him at Colon.

Mr. Buchanan was received at the railroad station by Senor Espriella, minister of foreign relations, United States Vice Consul General Erhmann, several officers of the United States navy, many foreign residents and native soldiers.

The reports that the appointment of Minister Buchanan will be declared invalid by the United States senate seem to impress neither the minister nor the members of the junta.

The Republican band serenaded Mr Buchanan last night.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The following cablegram was received at the navy department today from Rear Admiral Coghlan, dated Colon:

"Mayflower reports met with Pinzon carrying three hundred men and munitions, bound for base at Titumati."

DOWIE'S FAREWELL.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Preparatory to leaving for Australia, John Alexander Dowie bade farewell to his Chicago adherents at a meeting in the Auditorium yesterday. Standing room was at a premium. After an all-night "watch meeting" in Zion city New Year's eve, Dowie will leave for New Orleans and will travel to San Francisco via the southwest route, stopping at various large cities en route. He intends to sail from San Francisco January 21 and counts on being back in Chicago next June.

"I am going to leave everything in Zion City and not steal away with either the lace works or the temple," said Dowie. "That was a malicious lie about my wife taking away $7,000,000, but I'm foolish to deny it again. I will take with me only enough cash for spending money."

Several times in the course of his remarks Dowie spoke in a friendly manner of President Roosevelt and in his prayer asked that Mr. Roosevelt's enemies be circumvented and forestalled in "carrying out their mischievous plans."

Bell After Body of Smithson.

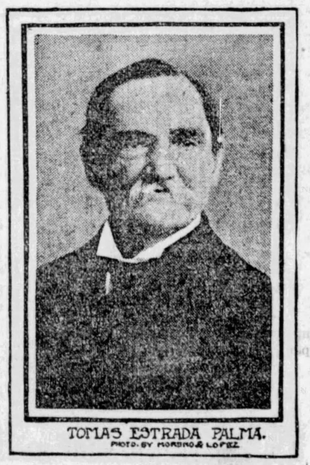
Genoa, Dec. 28.—Dr. Alexander Graham Bell, inventor of the telephone, has arrived here. He will convey to the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, the remains of James Smithson, founder of the institution, who died in Genoa in 1829.

PALMA IS VERY PLEASED

Thanks America's People for Cuba's Christmas Present.

Havana, Dec. 29.—President Palma has made the following statement:

"I am very glad to say that both the government and the people of Cuba highly appreciate the recent testimony of sincere friendship and good will given to us by the people of the United States through the American congress, because we consider the ratification of the treaty of reciprocity the most valuable Christmas gift we could receive."



TOMAS ESTRADA PALMA.
PHOTO. BY MORENO & LOPEZ.

HASTILY STARTING CARNEGIE FURNACES

Pittsburg, Dec. 29.—Orders have been received to immediately put in operation blast furnace No. 3, at Duquesne, and furnace H, of the Edgar Thomson Steel works at Braddock. Both furnaces are owned by the Carnegie Steel company, and have been out of commission for repairs for three months. They are record-breakers as producers. Orders have also been received to resume operations at the four Braddock furnaces and two at Rankin as soon as the repairs can be completed.

ONLY DAUGHTER OF THE KAISER.

PRINCESS VICTORIA LOUISE THE KAISER'S ONLY DAUGHTER

CAR BUILDING FOR 1903.

New York, Dec. 25.—The Railway Gazette gives the following statistics of cars and locomotive building during the past year:

"Official returns from practically all the car building plants in the United States show that 154,808 cars have been built during the year 1903. Of this total figure approximately 152,801 are freight cars and 2,007 passenger coaches; 153,195 for domestic use and 1,163 for export. Last year the total number of cars built were 164,547.

During the year 5,152 locomotives were built at the various locomotive works as against 4,140 last year. The number includes 88 electric locomotives. The increase over 1902 is the largest of any one year and possibly is due to the fact that the locomotive works in the country had such a volume of orders placed during 1902 that they were unable to make immediate delivery and many of the orders were held over until 1903.

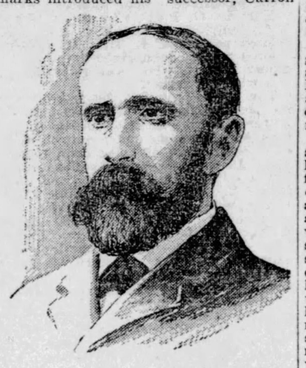
At an average cost per locomotive of $12,000 the total amount spent by the railroads for motive power would be approximately $62,000,000. This figure does not include the locomotives which are built yearly by railroad companies at their own shops.

THE SCIENTISTS.

Annual Meeting of the American Association at St. Louis.

St. Louis, Dec. 28.—The fifty-third annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science began here today with between 700 and 1,000 members present, comprising some of the most notable men in the country. The convention will remain in session during the entire week.

Today's session consisted almost entirely of addresses of welcome and responses. Dr. Ira Remsen, retiring president of the general association, called the meeting to order and in a few remarks introduced his successor, Carroll



PROF. I. C. RUSSELL.

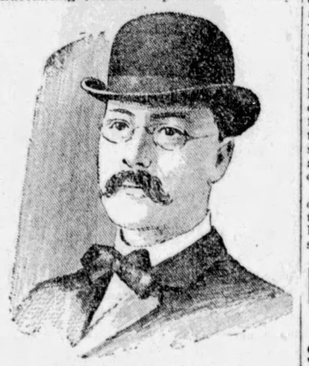
D. Wright. David R. Francis, honorary president of the local committee on arrangements, followed the installation of the new president with an address of welcome. Cyrus P. Walbridge, former mayor and president of the Business Men's league, also welcomed the delegates. President Wright responded in behalf of the association.

After announcement of the different secretaries the nine sections held separate meetings to effect permanent organization. This was followed by addresses by the vice presidents of the different sections before the main body. Tonight Dr. Remsen will deliver an address on "Progress and Science."

Among those in attendance are Wm. Treclease, president of the American Society of Naturalists, and Prof. Israel C. Russell, of the University of Michigan.

The American Association for the Advancement of Science was practically founded in 1848 at Philadelphia. The first suggestion of the idea of an association was contained in a letter written by Prof. Hitchcock, of Amherst college, to his friend, Prof. Henry D. Rogers, of Philadelphia, April 4, 1838. Correspondence among the geologists and naturalists of those days continued for some time, and finally, in April, 1840, the "Association of American Geologists" was founded in Philadelphia. At the third meeting of the Society of Geologists at Boston the naturalists joined, and the name was changed to the "Association of American Geologists and Naturalists." In 1848, with a membership of 461, the American Association for the Advancement of Science was definitely founded, and its first meeting was held in Philadelphia. Since that time 52 meetings have been held, those for 1861 to 1865 inclusive, being omitted on account of the great disturbance consequent on the civil war.

Of the body of men who met in Philadelphia in 1848, there are alive today: Samuel L. Abbot, of Boston; Martin H. Boyce, of Coppersburg, and Wolcott Gibbs of Newport. The constitution, which was adopted at the Philadelphia meeting remains today in all its essentials, and its first clause sets forth the broad objects for which the association was formed. The association showed a fluctuating membership from its formation until 1875; then gradually increased until 1892, when it numbered 2,037. There was a slight falling off in the next six or seven years, but the increase began again in 1900, and it now numbers over 4,000. The names of nearly all the prominent scientific men of America are to be found in the volumes of the proceedings of the association, and many of the greatest achievements of American science have been first announced at the association's meetings.



DR. WM. TRELEASE.

TAFT FOR SECOND PLACE.

Columbus, Dec. 25.—The Dispatch prints the following from its Washington correspondent "Among Republican politicians in Washington, there is talk of starting a boom for Judge William H. Taft, of Ohio, for second place on the ticket with President Roosevelt. Judge Taft, it is announced, will succeed Elihu Root as secretary of war, February 1. Some of Judge Taft's friends predict that he will discountenance a vice presidential boom and that he will want to serve as secretary of war for four years with a view of becoming a presidential candidate in 1908. It is pointed out that Senator Fairbanks and other aspiring politicians who have been mentioned as presidential possibilities, may be out of the running in 1908. Judge Taft is now en route home from the Philippines."

MRS. SULLIVAN DEAD.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Alexander Sullivan, well known on both sides of the Atlantic as an author and editorial writer, died today after one week's illness, following a stroke of paralysis. Mrs. Sullivan, formerly Miss Margaret F. Buchanan, was 56 years old. She was born in Ireland, but her family removed to Detroit, Mich., when she was an infant. Mrs. Sullivan was educated in the Sacred Heart convent, and was also a graduate of the Detroit High school. She was a proficient Greek, Latin and French scholar. During Charles A. Dana's lifetime she was a frequent contributor to the New York Sun, and was an editorial writer on the Chicago Times in the days of Wilbur F. Story. Up to the time of her last illness Mrs. Sullivan was an editorial writer on the Chicago Chronicle.

In 1896 she had a stroke of paralysis, from which she recovered completely, but she was stricken again Sunday afternoon.

QUANTRELL'S BONES.

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 28.—Secretary Martin, of the Kansas Historical society, will have to remove the bones of the noted outlaw Quantrell from the rooms of the society, or a fight will be made to remove him. Mr. Martin secured the bones of Quantrell a month ago as a relic, but Grand Army posts all over the state are demanding that they be removed. The old soldiers say they will not be taunted by the bones of this noted outlaw.

PERE MARQUETTE WRECK

Nineteen Lives Lost in Collision Near Grand Rapids.

Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 28.—Careful revision today of the list of dead in Saturday night's wreck on the Pere Marquette railway at East Paris shows a total of 19 victims instead of 22 as reported last night. Today's investigation and revision shows that Allen H. Wells, of Big Rapids; Peter W. Wierengo, of Grand Rapids, and a man named Peterson, or Thompson, of Sioux City, Ia., who were included in the list of dead, were not killed. A mistake was also made in the name of F. M. Gillett, of Portland, one of the victims. It should have been Wm. G. Smith, of Portland.

M. J. Carpenter, vice-president and general manager of the Pere Marquette, arrived in this city today from Chicago. He stated that he was here simply in an advisory capacity. Mr. Carpenter declined to place the blame upon any one, making the following statement in part:

"All the employes who might be in any way responsible for the accident have been in the employ of the company for many years and I have the utmost confidence in them. In the absence of any other explanation, I shall believe the agent's story that the light at McCord was blown out. It may be doubted that such a thing is possible with one of these signal lamps, but all of us who have had experience with kerosene know that such lamps will defy all efforts of a strong wind to blow them out, while a simple little gust, eddying in just the proper manner, will extinguish them. As to the sending of the second order, this is a matter of daily occurrence in any railway office. Probably if that second order had not been sent this accident would not have happened, and then again it might. In any event the dispatcher acted according to his best judgment."

It was the most disastrous wreck in the history of the Pere Marquette system and instead of being caused by man's carelessness or mistake, is charged to the high wind, which extinguished the red signal light in the order board at McCords station, where the west-bound train was expected to stop and receive new orders. Two minutes before the train rushed by McCords the light was burning, says the operator there, but in that brief interval the blizzard that was raging extinguished it, and train No. 5 flashed by the station to crash into eastbound train No. 6, near East Paris. The trains, which were two of the finest on the system, were reduced to a promiscuous pile of broken and twisted timber and metal, with dead and injured planed down and crushed by the fragments of the heavy cars.

Five cars and two large locomotives were jammed into a space ordinarily occupied by three coaches and the wreckage was strewn across the railroad right of way from fence to fence.

When train No. 5, bound west, whizzed by McCords instead of stopping, the frightened operator notified the dispatcher, then found that his red light had been extinguished. He reported this fact and then there was but one action to take. The collision was inevitable. The dispatcher's office called for medical aid and gave orders to hold the train over the Saginaw branch at the depot and get the wrecking outfit under steam. They then waited for the word they knew must come.

There was no chance for the fast running trains to see each other through the driving blizzard in time to even slow down, and in a few minutes word came from the conductor of No. 5 that they had crashed together and that there was an awful loss of life.

The west-bound engine, No. 397, drove through No. 6's engine like a wedge, separating the gear from the boiler and standing the latter on end like a broken, twisted shell. The running gear was crumpled up like so much twine. Great cast steel side rods bent into many shapes and even the steel tires of the big driving wheels split and sprung from the wheels, landing in some cases ten feet from the engine. The boiler of engine No. 397 turned over several times and the very force of the twisting impact seems to have been the means of saving the life of Engineer Waterman. He was flung forty feet over the fence at the edge of the right of way. Moon, his fireman, was sitting on the opposite side of the cab, and he, too, was thrown clear of the pile of wreckage.

As the trains came together the steam domes of each boiler blew off, releasing their contents, else there would have been added horrors from the blistering steam.

MANY FAVOR ANNEXATION

Shown by Result of Election in St. Pierre.

St. Johns, N. F., Dec. 29.—The contest in St. Pierre and Miquelon for a representative to the French chamber of deputies, resulted in the reported election of M. Legasse, by a small majority over M. Fromont, who, it is understood, is in favor of the annexation of the colony to the United States. As M. Legasse represented the fishery interests, the small majority by which he has been re-elected is looked upon as an evidence of the extent of the popular dissatisfaction with existing conditions. Several riots occurred as a result of the destitution caused by the comparative failure of the French fisheries on the grand banks during the present season.

SAN DOMINGO TROUBLES.

Puerto Plata, San Domingo, Dec. 24.—After a second defeat at the hands of Gen. Morales' troops, the forces of former President Jiminez are now in full retreat. Nine were drowned while attempting to ford the Cangrejo river.

The Dominican gunboat Presidente, which has begun to bombard Puerto Plata, was first fired upon by the fort. A demand was made for the surrender of the place by 4 o'clock Thursday afternoon and shots was the only reply. Small damage is expected from the bombardment.

Arrests of prominent followers of former President Vasquez are being made in Santiago de los Cabelleros.

A WOMAN HERMIT.

Eckerly, Ind., Dec. 28.—Twenty-five years ago a German giving the name of John Anchorlee bought a small farm near here, and has ever since lived the life of a hermit. Twelve years ago he was absent a week and returned with an infant, saying it was the child of a dead sister. The hermit died Saturday and was found to be a woman. The child knows nothing of her parentage. She has always known the woman as "Uncle John."

MASSACRE COMING.

New York, Dec. 28.—As a forerunner of another anti-Semitic demonstration called for January 7 (the Greek Christmas) in a recently issued anonymous circular, indirect attacks on the Jews already have commenced, according to a dispatch from Kisheneff under date of December 25. The windows of many Jewish houses have been broken and the inmates threatened with personal violence. The only safety for the Jews seems now in flight, the correspondent asserts, and all are preparing to emigrate.

Oil Well Got Loose.

Beaumont, Tex., Dec. 25.—An oil well at Batson Prairie, the new oil field which was being bailed, broke loose and with a roar that shook the earth began spouting oil 200 feet in the air and hurling rocks 600 feet through 20 feet of pipe

NEGRO VOTERS.

Maryland Is Getting Ready to Disfranchise Them.

Baltimore, Dec. 23.—Attorney General Bryan has drawn up a bill for submission to the legislature which will disfranchise some 30,000 negro voters in this state. This action is in line with the issue raised by Senator Gorman and the Democratic managers in the recent state campaign. As the legislature will be overwhelmingly Democratic, the bill, which is for a constitutional amendment will be passed.

It provides that before any person shall be entitled to vote he shall be able to read and to write at dictation any section of the Constitution of Maryland, or he shall have paid for the two preceding years state and county or city taxes, unless he was entitled to vote in one of the states of the Union on January 1, 1867, or at some date prior thereto, or unless he is a legitimate, lineal descendant of some person who was entitled to vote at that time. No property or educational qualification shall be required of persons entitled to vote prior to 1867.

The bill is based on the "grandfather clause" in the North Carolina election law.

AN AMERICAN SINGER.

Paris, Dec. 24.—It is chiefly in singing that American girls have been credited abroad with having great talent. It is pleasant, therefore, to record that the only foreigner admitted to the Conservatoire at the recent course for piano playing was a little American girl named

MISS JESSIE GEORGIANA MACPHERSON.

Jessie Macpherson. She came to Paris with her mother and teacher, Mrs. Lillian Waymouth Pomeroy, of Chicago, who has up to the present been her only professor.

Miss Jessie Macpherson is a modest little girl, rather serious, except when she mimics a French professor giving a lesson. She has a wealth of golden hair and blue eyes. Her progress will be watched with interest.

MORGAN'S BIG SCHEME.

London, Dec. 24.—Pierpont Morgan's plans for getting a slice of the underground rapid transit business of London before the whole territory is captured by Yerkes are coming on rapidly. Owing to the uncertainty as to the attitude which the royal commission on London traffic will adopt on the question of "tubes," Mr. Yerkes and his friends have decided not to promote any bills until after the commission's report which is not due until February. The Morgan group, however, is bolder. The necessary notices have been served and a parliamentary committee will be again asked to recommend the construction of a line similar to that which it refused to sanction last session. It is known as the City and Northeast Suburban, extending from the heart of the city northeast to Waltham Abbey, and is estimated to cost $22,000,000.

The success of the Progressive party in the late borough council elections will materially assist Mr. Morgan in convincing the government that such a scheme is practicable. In the districts through which it is proposed to construct the line there is now a strong working class element on the various public bodies who are in favor of quick and cheap transit, and it is expected that strong arguments will be made to the committee to sanction the construction of the new line. Already arrangements are in progress to get a representative delegation to wait on the board of trade, and other government departments responsible for the control of new railway schemes. It is admitted by many public men that there is no distrfict in London whose railway accommodation of the nature suggested is more required. The existing railways are the leading opponents of the Morgan scheme.

A PRINCE OF INDIA.

New York, Dec. 24.—To see New York in its most brilliant season, there arrived on the Cunard line steamer Lucania, a prince of India, the Sahebzada Nasir Ali Khan, a brother of his highness the Nawab Hamid Ali Khan of Rampur. He is young, handsome, of distinguished ancestry and wealthy. Gotham will welcome him. As the guest of Mrs. Henry Duveen, at the Savoy hotel, he will spend three weeks in this city. The

NASIR ALI KHAN PRINCE OF RAMPUR INDIA.

theatre the opera and society, as well as all phases of metropolitan life, will come under his observation. His friend, Jeffrey E. Duxeen, who, like himself, is an undergraduate at the University of Oxford, had often talked to the Sahebzada of the leading city of the Western Hemisphere. The prince had no idea that he would come here until a day or so before he sailed, but a cable message of invitation caused him to pack his trunk hastily.

THE BENNETT ESTATE.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 25.—Application for the removal of Wm. J. Bryan as executor of the will of Philo S. Bennett has been made in the probate court, on the ground that he has neglected and violated his duties, and because his interests personally and as trutee are inimical to those of the legatees under the will.

The application was made by former Judge Henry Stoddard, representing Mrs. Bennett and other residuary legatees.

BIG MERGER.

Sheet Steel and Tin Plate Corporations Get Together.

Pittsburg, Dec. 23.—Details of the merger of the American Sheet Steel Co. and the American Tin Plate company, the general knowledge of which has been held in financial circles for some weeks, have been made public.

The new consolidated company is to be known as the American Sheet and Tin Plate company of New Jersey. Its offices are to be located in the Frick building, Pittsburg. The new officers elected include George G. McMurtry, chairman of the board; William T. Graham, president; W. M. Leeds, first vice president; Eugene W. Pergny, second vice president; H. B. Wheeler, secretary and treasurer.

All officers but Chairman George W. McMurtry, will be located in the new headquarters in Pittsburg. Mr. McMurtry will have his office in the Empire building on Broadway, where he will be in close touch with the general officers of the United States Steel Corporation, thus acting in an advisory capacity there and holding the position of advisory head of the new corporation.

"The completion of the merger will be effected prior to February 1. The original companies were capitalized at $50,000,000 each. The American Sheet Steel Co., now operates nineteen modern sheet plants scattered throughout Ohio, Pennsylvania and Indiana. The American Tin Plate company operates a total of 26 block sheet mills and 26 tinning plants.

The merging of the two companies reduces the operating expenses by a high per cent. Just what effect the merger will have in Pittsburg is not stated, but there is to be a retirement of a number of officials of both companies, according to present rumors.

With the removal of these companies and their general offices to Pittsburg, there passes from New York practically the last of the general offices of the subsidiary companies of the Steel corporation.

GUIDI'S CONGRATULATIONS

St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 23.—Archbishop Ireland has received, under date of December 22, a cablegram from Monsigner Guidi, apostolic delegate to the Philippine islands, announcing that the last touch had just been put on the contract between the United States government of the islands and the church for the purchase of the friars' lands in the islands, and invites the archbishop to rejoice with him on the happy conclusion of the negotiations.

Referring to the cablegram Archbishop Ireland said to a representative of the Associated Press: "I want to add to this my expression of great pleasure at the termination of the long-drawn negotiations for the sale of these lands in the Philippines. All praise must be awarded to Governor Taft and Monsignor Guidi, who have labored hard to bring all parties interested in this matter to a final understanding. From the time of the arrival of Mgr. Guidi in the islands there has been the warmest friendship between him and the Philippine government.

"The disposal of the land, together with the arrival of the American bishops in the islands put an end to all political-religious controversies in the Philippines and inaugurates there an era of civil and religious peace.

"The administration of President Roosevelt is to be congratulated on the present conditions of things in the islands. It is due to his wisdom and forethought that caused Governor Taft, some 18 months ago, to visit Rome and talk directly with the head of the church about the friar lands matters. Pope Leo and Governor Taft showed themselves to be of one mind as to the main lines of the policy to be followed. The negotiations then begun in Rome were afterwards transferred to the Philippines where Monsignor Guidi continued the prudent and farsighted policy of his master, Leo XIII.

"That henceforward the church in the islands will be well taken care of, Catholics and Protestants may confidently believe. The Americans now presiding over the sees in the islands will know what course wisdom and justice dictate, and they will follow that course. We in the states may leave to them the interests of religion as we leave to Governor Wright, Governor Taft's successor, the interests of the civil government. All agitation and anxiety regarding church matters in the islands now ceases and we are all glad that this is the case."

DISASTER TO A BARK.

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—Captain Henderson, of the dismasted British bark Olive Bank, which has just been towed into this port for repairs, has made a statement of the cause of the disaster to his vessel. In this he says that everything went well after leaving Shanghai on October 18, in ballast for Royal Roads, B. C., for orders, until the vessel reached latitude 36.06 north, longitude 154.24 east, which she did on November 9. Here a typhoon struck the vessel, heaving the ship down until her rail was in the water. When the wind went down the sea rose and the vessel began to roll heavily until at last the topmost riggings fore and aft gave way under the strain and the masts and yards went over the side. It took all hands five days to clear the wreckage, owing to the heavy rolling of the ship which continued during the operation. From that time on fair weather favored the vessel and under jury rig she made the last 1,200 miles of her voyage in good time. When the repairs are completed the Olive Bank will proceed on her way north.

STEEL EARNINGS.

New York, Dec. 24.—From a source of information usualy regarded as reliable in Wall street, it was learned that the officers of the United States Steel Corporation have had preliminary estimates made up and that they indicate earnings of only $14,000,000 net for the December quarter, as compared with $31,000,000 last year. This will make the total net earnings for the fiscal year of the great corporation only $110,000,000, as compared with $133,000,000 last year.

Of the decrease in net of $23,000,000 for the year $17,000,000, according to this report, has been in the last quarter. If the earnings continue to fall off at the present rate the earnings for the next twelve months will be only $56,000,000. This is without taking into consideration the large saving in wages and other items which the new plans of economy have in view.

STEAMER ON ROCKS.

South Norwalk, Conn., Dec. 24.—In a thick fog early today the steamer Erastus Corning, of the Star line, bound from New Haven for New York with 20 passengers and a heavy cargo of freight, struck on the rocks of Copp's Island just outside Norwalk Harbor. A hole two feet square was stove in the side of the steamer and within five minutes she sank in 15 feet of water.

The shock of the collision and the cries of the crew aroused the passengers who rushed on deck in a panic. Most of them were thinly clad. One woman jumped overboard but was rescued by a member of the crew. During the confusion six of the passengers neared away a small boat and left the steamer. The boat contained two men and four women.

Aside from the missing party, all the passengers and the crew reached here safely on board a tug and the passengers soon after left by train for New York. Some of them had no outer wraps and all were without baggage, the vessel having filled with water so quickly that they had barely time to seize clothing and rush to the deck.

The Erastus Corning left New Haven at 10:15 last night. She encountered thick weather in the Sound and was proceeding slowly when at 2:30 o'clock she suddenly went on the rocks on Copp's Island, about a mile off her usual course.

A launch with some of the crew was sent to this city for assistance and a tug was sent to the stranded steamer.

Rumors of Secret Treaty.

London, Dec. 25.—The Tien Tsin correspondent of the Standard today revives the report which was denied a few days ago to the effect that a secret treaty has been signed between Russia and Corea, whereby Russia obtains the control of the Corean army through Russian instructors. The correspondent declares this will greatly increase the tension in the far east.

PHYSICAL CULTURE.

Public Exhibition Now Going on in New York City.

New York, Dec. 25.—Physical culture in all its different phases is to be brought more prominently before the attention of the public than ever before by the Physical Culture Exhibition to be held in Madison Square Garden next week, the final arrangements for which are being completed. In many respects this will be a novel exhibit, for nothing on exactly the same lines has been attempted in this country before. While there will be a number of the regular athletic events such as are seen at all indoor competitions, as running and jumping, there will

MISS FLORENCE BRUCE.

also be contests in every other department of strength, fasting exercises, exhibitions in different systems of physical culture education, demonstrations in the use of various appliances for indoor and open-air exercises, while prizes of $1,000 each are offered for the most perfectly developed man and woman.

The Amateur Athletic Association has given its sanction to the purely athletic events, and in the men's competitions many of the prominent short and long distance runners of the east have entered. The men's events will be held Wednesday afternoon and Thursday evening. In the first series the events will be 220-yard run, five mile run, and throwing the 56-pound weight for height.

One of the novel and interesting features will be the women's athletic competitions, which will be held Thursday afternoon on the running track in the Garden. An unusually ambitious program has been provided, and there will doubtless be as much curiosity to see the fair sprinters themselves as to learn the records they will be able to establish.

Two other novel events will be for fasting "fat or starving athletes. There will probably be very little spectacular interest in the contest before the real test of strength at the end of the starving period begins, but elaborate statistics will be given of the daily loss of flesh of each aspirant for fasting honors, together with the announcement of his condition. The object is to show that a properly conducted method of fasting will not injure one's bodily health or vigor, and it is also hoped to demonstrate that these fasting competitors will be able to perform athletic exercises nearly as well as those who have eaten their regular amount of food each day. One of these fasting events will be for three days, and at the close all who have been starving for that length of time will enter a go-as-you-please race. In the other event the contestants will starve, or try to, up to their ability for seven days, and at the close they will show what they can do with the 56-pound weight, in the 50-yard dash, the 220-yard run, and the one-mile run. Physical culture wrestling is another interesting event on the program which is expected to attract much attention. Prof. Titus, the celebrated physical director, is interested in these tests.

In the women's "beauty show" scores of women from different parts of the country have entered, among them being Miss Florence Bruce, noted beauty and athlete.

PROF. TITUS.

FAREWELL TO TAFT.

Manila, Dec. 24.—Governor Taft was given an enthusiastic farewell today. A military guard of honor escorted him from the palace to the Luneta where the governor from a stand reviewed the parade of 5,000 troops which were followed by a procession of civilian employes, accompanied by a dozen bands. Thousands were in the line of march. Many delegations came from outside provinces. Scores of boats accompanied Governor Taft's launch to the steamer on which the governor sailed at midnight.

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For medical and family uses are the purest and best.
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Write for Price List.
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POWELL WANTS WARSHIP

Second Vessel Sent to War-Torn Santo Domingo.

Washington, Dec. 29.—With three revolutions raging on the island, the forces of Jiminez within four hours of San Domingo City, and excitement prevailing, Minister Powell thinks the situation demands the presence of an additional warship, and in a cablegram, dated yesterday, appeals to the state department for aid. In anticipation of the crisis which appears to have arrived, the state department had already taken steps to send another warship to San Domingo, and at its request Secretary Moody yesterday cabled Rear Admiral Lamberton, commanding the South Atlantic squadron, now at Trinidad, to dispatch one of his vessels to San Domingo at full speed to assist the gunboat Newport in protecting American and other interests.

CUBA RECOGNIZES PANAMA

Washington, Dec. 24.—Minister Quesada has received a cablegram informing him that the Cuban government has formally recognized the republic of Panama.

WATER SUPPLY REFUSED.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The secretary of the interior has refused the application of the city of San Francisco for permission to begin the necessary construction toward obtaining a water supply from the Yosemite National Park. The city proposed to expend about $39,000,000 on the waterworks and had a hearing before the secretary of the interior some months ago at which authority to take the preliminary steps so far as they applied to the park was asked. The interior department's adverse action is based on the fact that the organic act creating the park requires the government to keep it in its natural condition. It was pointed out that the law under which the application was filed could grant only a temporary privilege which would be revocable at will of any future head of the department. The city wished to build a dam at the end of the Hetthettichy Valley and convert that valley into a reservoir. It also holds that such works would obliterate or deface the natural wonders of the park.

FOR THE NEW NAVY.

Washington, Dec. 24.—By reason of the greater rapidity with which the new ships for the navy are being advanced to completion, Secretary Moody has transmitted to Congress an urgent request for an appropriation of $2,000,000 for armor and armament to be made without delay. The last appropriation made for armor and armament was based upon the amount expended per month last year, which was $79,736. Since July last this item has amounted to $1,109,980 per month, and after January 1 the manufacturers of armor have notified the department that a material increase is to be made in their output. Secretary Moody also has asked for an immediate appropriation of $200,000 to enable payment to be made to Cuba for the land acquired by the United States for the Guantanamo naval station and to enclose the same within a wall or fence according to the terms of the treaty.

CORTELYOU'S ASSISTANT.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Lawrence O. Murray, of Chicago, has been chosen assistant secretary of commerce and labor. The selection was announced today by the President, who stated that the office had been tendered to and accepted by Mr. Murray, and that the nomination would be sent to the senate immediately after the holiday recess. The appointment is made on the personal recommendation of Secretary Cortelyou, who has known Mr. Murray for a number of years.

BEAVERS' SUCCESSOR.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Announcement was made today of the appointment of C. M. Waters, as superintendent of the division of salaries and allowances of the postoffice department, to succeed Geo. W. Beavers, to take effect January 1 next. Mr. Waters is now acting superintendent of the division.

THE CHINESE TREATY.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Under Minister Conger's persistent urging the Chinese government has taken another step toward the final ratification of the commercial treaty recently ratified by the senate. Under today's date Mr. Conger cables from Pekin as follows:

"The memorial for the ratification of the treaty has been sent to Tien Tsin to be signed by the viceroy. It will then be returned to Pekin and promptly presented by the prince (Ching) to the throne for ratification."

WOOD'S CHRISTMAS GIFT.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Friends of Brigadier General Leonard Wood have sent him what must be a very welcome Christmas gift in the form of a cablegram assuring him that the Senate committee on military affairs will report in his favor, virtually unanimously, and that he will be confirmed by the Senate by an overwhelming vote.

There is no reason to believe that these friends of General Wood are mistaken. Since Secretary Root gave his testimony before the committee there has been little, if any, doubt as to the outcome of the now famous investigation. Even the opponents of General Wood admit that the report of the committee will not only be in favor of confirmation, but that it will be so sweeping as to leave small room for cavil on the part of his critics.

FITTING OUT TRANSPORTS

Washington, Dec. 26.—War department officials admit that the transports Sumner and McClellan at New York, as well as the Sherman, Bufford and Crook at San Francisco, are being fitted out for active service. The two vessels at New York have been in a state of readiness for several weeks, but so far no calls have been made for them. It is said that one of them will be utilized in bringing to the United States the artillery troops now stationed near Havana and at Santiago. Primarily all of these transports are intended for the Manila service.

PHILIPPINES BONDS.

Washington, Dec 24.—The secretary of the treasury authorizes the statement that the Philippine land purchase bonds may be substituted for government bonds now held as security for public deposits on condition that the government bonds thus released be used as security for additional circulation whenever in the judgment of the secretary of the treasury it is desirable to stimulate an increase in national bank circulation.

FOR THE ISLANDS.

Washington, Dec. 25.—Secretary Root has forwarded to the house of representatives, through the treasury department, a supplemental estimate of $2,526,100 for the defenses of the insular possessions of the United States.

In his request the secretary says: "Defenses for Porto Rico, the Hawaiian Islands, Guam and the Philippines are urgently needed to protect the newly acquired territory of the United States and government property to be stored there, also to prevent interruption of cable communication between San Francisco and the territory of Hawaii and Manila."

R R R

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

Taken inwardly, there is not a remedial agent in the world that will cure fever and ague and all other malarious, bilious and other fevers, aided by RADWAY'S PILLS, so quickly as RADWAY'S READY RELIEF. Externally, the application of

RADWAY'S READY RELIEF

to the part affected with pain will instantly relieve. Sold by all druggists.

OUR COMMERCE

For Eleven Months of the Year 1903.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Details of eleven months' commerce of the year 1903 are just made public by the department of commerce and labor through its bureau of statistics. They show an increase in practically all of the great groups into which the bureau of statistics divides the exports and in all of the groups into which it divides the imports. Agricultural products, as a whole, show an increase of 74 million dollars; products of the forests, 10 millions; products of the mines, 8 millions; manufactures, 5 millions, and miscellaneous articles, 2 millions. In the single group, fisheries, is shown a slight decrease of a little more than $1,000,000.

The figures for the month of November show a marked growth in exports of manufactures, the total for the month being $34,093,639, against $30,513,512 in November of last year. Agricultural products also showed a marked increase in the month, the figures for November, 1903, being $114,172,255, against $83,035,850 in the same month of last year. The increase in agricultural exports occurs chiefly in cotton, of which the value of the month's exports is unusually high.

The increase in exports of manufactures is distributed through many articles, but does not occur, as had been expected, in iron and steel. Discussions in trade circles and in the press during the past few weeks have predicted a revival in the export trade of iron and steel manufactures, but the November figures of exports of this class of merchandise do not justify this prediction. The total value of iron and steel manufactures exported in November, 1903, was $7,988,415, against $8,119,924 in November of 1902, $8,180,193 in November, 1901, and $10,112,721 in November 1900. For the eleven months ending with November, the total exports of iron and steel manufactures are $89,685,201 in value, against $90,136,124 in the corresponding months of 1902, and $94,112,782 in the corresponding months of 1901. Notwithstanding the slight decrease in exports of iron and steel, the total of all manufactures exported during the eleven months ending with November, 1903, is $382,768,127, against $377,757,576 in the corresponding months of last year.

Imports for the month show a decrease of over $8,000,000 compared with November of the preceding year. This decrease is divided between manufacturers' materials, food stuffs, and the group designated as "articles of voluntary use, luxuries, etc." The largest decrease occurs in the group "articles wholly or partially manufactured for use in manufacturing," the reduction in this class being about $3,000,000, as compared with the corresponding month of the preceding year. This reduction occurs largely in iron and steel, of which the importations for the month are less than half those of the corresponding month of last year, the figures for November, 1903, being $2,309,233, against $4,779,093 in November, 1902. For the eleven months ending with November articles wholly or partially manufactured for use in manufacturing show an increase of $15,000,000 over the corresponding months of last year, while articles in a crude condition for use in manufacturing show an increase of $11,000,000 in 1903, as compared with the corresponding months of 1902.

Summarizing the story told by the figures for the month of November and the eleven months ending with November, it may be said that they indicate a growth in exports of manufactures, but that the expected increase in exports of iron and steel manufactures has not developed. Imports of iron and steel manufactures, however, show a decrease in November, 1903, as compared with November, 1902, though for the entire eleven months the figures of iron and steel imports are slightly in excess of those of last year. Importations of other manufacturers' materials also show a slight decrease in November as compared with November of last year, but a marked increase when the eleven months ending with November are considered in comparison with the corresponding months of last year.

These figures of the commerce of the eleven months would seem to indicate that the total commerce of the United States during the year about to end will be greater than in any preceding year, but that the total exports will fall a few millions below those of 1900 and be about equal to those of 1901, but materially in excess of those of 1902, while the total imports will exceed those of any preceding year, and combined with the exports make the grand total of commerce more than in any earlier year; also that the exports of manufactures will exceed those of 1902 by several millions, but be somewhat below those of the record year 1900, and perhaps 1901.

CONGRESSIONAL CAMPAIGNS

Washington, Dec. 24.—Four brisk congressional fights are expected to take place in Ohio before a candidate has been secured to take up the burdens at Washington. These will occur, no doubt, in the Sixth, Eighth, Ninth and Fifteenth districts, and only in the Sixth, Eighth and Fifteenth are they of such a character as to give promise of unseating the present occupant. In the Ninth, James H. Southard, of Toledo, is regarded here as having such a strong following as to insure his renomination without serious hindrance.

The Sixth district, which includes the counties of Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Greene, Highland and Warren, holds out the promise of a bitter fight. It is now represented by Charles Q. Hildebrant, of Wilmington. That district has an unwritten law that two terms are sufficient, and thereby loses much in the way of new public buildings and government appointments. Based upon the strength of this rule, a number of other men are planning to become candidates, and chief among them is D. Q. Morrow, of Hillsboro, who has some reputation as a local leader, and was at one time president of the Ohio Republican league. Greene county is also liable to stir up a candidate. Hildebrant, however, has the lead.

In the Eighth district, Judge William R. Warnock, of Urbana, has entered his second term and unquestionably wants another. But, unfortunately for him, the two-term rule in that district is looked upon as a proper thing, and so the judge is preparing to face several contestants. Chief among these is Ralph Cole, of Findlay, a young man who has gained a reputation as the author of taxation measures in the Ohio legislature.

Henry C. Van Voorhis, of Zanesville, who represents the Fifteenth district, has announced that he will not again be a candidate, and several friends are willing to take him at his word. But recent conditions in his own county at Muskingum may be such as to cause him to change his mind, for it is learned that his old political enemy, Browning, of Zanesville, desires to take up the congressional burden. Van Voorhis, it is said, would like nothing better than to jump into the race and defeat him. But as to whether or not he will wage a battle remains to be seen.

An English Estate.

London, Dec. 23.—The late Lord Abinger, who died suddenly in Paris, December 12, in his will left everything possible to his mother, the new peer, with whom the deceased was not particularly friendly, getting strictly the entailed property, about 25,000 acres in England. Lady Abinger, the deceased peer's mother, who was the daughter of the late Commodore Magruder, U. S. N., gets the historic Inverlochy castle and the town house, with all its valuable collection of pictures and bric-a-brac.

MORE VESSELS

Going to Reinforce the American Fleets at the Isthmus.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The fleets of warships on both sides of the isthmus of Panama will shortly be reenforced by several vessels now on their way to that uarter. The gunboat Topeka, of the Atlantic training squadron, left Key West yesterday for Colon by way of Kingston as convoy of the torpedoboat destroyers Truxton and Stewart, which have been assigned to patrol duty on the Caribbean coast of the isthmus. The gunboat Castine arrived at Colon yesterday from Philadelphia none the worse for her recent grounding on a bar in the Delaware river. The collier Caesar has left Culebra for Colon with coal for the fleet. The converted cruiser Dixie left League Island for Colon with the Panama marine brigade, numbering about six hundred men, in command of Brigadier General Elliott.

Naval movements in the direction of the isthmus have been almost equal on the Pacific coast. The gunboat Petrel, bound for Panama, arrived at Acapulco, Mexico, on the 26th inst., and undoubtedly has left by this time. The flagship New York, the gunboat Bennington, the torpedoboat destroyers Prebel and Paul Jones and the Collier Saturn have been fitted out at San Francisco for service in the vicinity of Panama, and it is said that all of them will start south in a day or two.

GEN. REYES

Getting Ready to Leave Washington in a Hurry.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Although Secretary Hay has not replied to the note of Gen. Reyes, preparations are rapidly going on for the closing of the Colombian legation here, and the departure of Colombia representatives for home. It is clear that they do not entertain very much hope of a satisfactory response by this government. Already most of the legation files have been packed and arrangements completed for placing them in storage here. Gen. Reyes for several days has denied himself to callers. It is believed here that while the reply of Mr. Hay has not been made, sufficient information has been obtained by the Colombian representatives in the interviews they have had with the secretary to enable them to forecast its conclusions. The preparations going on for closing up the affairs of the legation would seem to indicate that Gen. Reyes and Dr. Harran are awaiting only as a matter of form and diplomatic courtesy, the official communication of Mr. Hay setting forth the reason why this government cannot accept their view of the Panama situation, before severing diplomatic relations with the United States.

A TRANSLATOR DEAD.

Washington, Dec. 28.—Col. Henry L. Thomas, for thirty-four years translator in the state department, died today at his residence in this city, aged 68 years, of pneumonia. Mr. Thomas was a man of exceptional ability and was one of the most valued employes in the department. He spoke and translated French, Spanish, Italian, German, Norwegian, Spanish, Dutch, Portuguese, Hebrew, Arabic and Greek, beside having a general knowledge of other tongues.

SECRETARY HAY ILL.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The condition of Secretary Hay remains unchanged. Contrary to the expectation of his physician the secretary's bronchial trouble has not yielded readily to treatment, and Mr. Hay will probably leave Washington early in January for Thomasville, Ga., for a visit to Colonel Oliver Payne. The mild climate there has helped the secretary before, and it is hoped may again prove an effective cure. Unless a decided and unexpected change for the better in Mr. Hay's condition occurs within the next few days Mr. Loomis will officiate at the breakfast on New Year's day to the diplomatic corps at the residence of the Secretary and Mrs. Hay. Mr. Loomis will also be present at the President's reception in the same capacity.

THE MARINE CORPS.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The recent activities of the marine corps in Panama, and in manning the new naval station at Guantanamo, Cuba, are the reasons given by Secretary Moody in asking Congress for an immediate deficiency appropriation of $57,146 for this service.

The first battalion organized by direction of the secretary for service in Panama, consists of ten officers and 338 enlisted men. The expense of fitting out this battalion with both sea and land equipment, was $10,000. Pursuant to a confidential order from the secretary, November 12, five companies of marines consisting of three officers and 94 men each were equipped for "emergency field service," at an expense of $12,000. Other demands on the marine force are anticipated, and the fund for equipment now contains but $20,000.

Other extraordinary expenses which have been borne out of the annual appropriation for the marine corps service include the establishment of new posts at Charleston, S. C.; Honolulu, Hawaii; Samoa and Algiers, La.

ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON

Halifax, N. S., Dec. 25.—To a majority of the citizens of the United States the very existence of the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, the last possessions of the French in North America, is perhaps unknown, and to learn that in the insular campaign which closed yesterday the chief issue has been the question of annexation to the United States will be all the more surprising. The election, which takes place Sunday is for a member of the Chamber of Deputies at Paris. The annexation issue has been uppermost in the campaign, notwithstanding the announcement from Paris that the French government was not contemplating the sale of the islands. The islands are valuable solely as fishing stations and this accounts in a great measure for the annexation sentiment that has lately developed there. Most of the supplies are imported from the United States and the citizens believe that if the islands were sold to that country these necessities would be imported free of duty. They also argue that it would be a great advantage to be able to land their fish in the American markets free.

The annexation sentiment, however, is by no means unanimous, and the campaign has been very heated, several duels having been fought on account of it.

BRYAN AT THE HAGUE.

The Hague, Dec. 28.—William J. Bryan arrived here today from Berlin and visited the foreign ministers.

Mr. Bryan is enjoying his tour. He said he found Count Tolstoi looking well, though very aged. Tolstoi's first question was: "Are you a socialist?"

When assured to the contrary the count said:

"I am very glad to hear it. I am not a socialist myself."

Natives in Revolt.

Cape Town, Dec. 28.—A general insurrection has broken out among the Bondelzwarts tribes in Great Namaqualand.

Namaqualand is in German Southwest Africa. The insurrectionists have collected in the Kara mountains.

MASSACRED IN JUNGLE

Fate of a White Missionary and His Converts.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Minister Lyon has reported to the state department from Monroevia, Liberia, under date of November 4 last, the details of the massacre in the depths of an African forest of a white missionary named John G. Tate, with all of his following, eighteen in number. The massacre took place as far back as March 15, 1901, yet this, the first detailed account, has just come to hand in an affidavit by Mrs. Mary L. Allen, a white missionary at Nouna Kroo, Liberia. She had the story from some of the native Doo tribesmen who knew of the killing. Tate had a large mission and farm, and besides he maintained a considerable school in the jungle, and altogether nineteen people were in the mission when it was surrounded in the night by the Doos. The first man who answered a knock at the door was shot. The interpreter next was shot and as Tate appeared and tried to protect the body of the interpreter he, too, was shot and cut to pieces. The Doos then killed all the remaining inmates of the house, cut off their hands and placing the bloody members in a coffin sent them back to their people as trophies. In explanation of their action the Doos said:

"We have no fight with the white man. But if we do not kill him now he will bring his country to make war upon us."

Minister Lyon on the strength of this affidavit has communicated with the Liberian secretary of state with a view to securing fuller information and perhaps the punishment of the principals of the massacre.

STEAMER BURNED.

San Juan, P. R., Dec. 28.—The British steamer Lady Joicie, Captain Smith, bound from Chilean ports to Savanah, Ga., Wilmington, N. C., and New York, with a full cargo of nitrate of soda, took fire and went down 75 miles south of Porto Rico, last Wednesday.

The cargo of the Lady Joycie exploded and the vessel went down within two and a half hours. Captain Smith and his crew and one passenger arrived at Ponce in small boats, completely exhausted and almost naked, having made their way through terrible seas. There were no fatalities and the only serious injury was suffered by one sailor who had his leg broken and who is now in the hospital. The British consul at Ponce attended to the immediate wants of the wrecked marines who are expected to arrive here today.

A MINE EXPLODED.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 28.—The steamer Shinano Maru, which arrived from China and Japan, brought a remarkable story from Singapore, which is vouched for by Shanghai papers, of the narrow escape of the German mail liner Prinz Heinrich from being blown up by a submarine mine. When the steamer was leaving Singapore a steam launch, with British naval officers on board, steamed toward her and the British naval men shouted excitedly:

"You are in great danger! Right before you is a submarine mine; for God's sake, go astern full speed!"

Captain Hedrizer, realizing that his vessel had too much way to stop, steamed ahead hoping to get over the danger spot. Suddenly the mine exploded about two lengths astern with a tremendous roar, throwing up mountains of water.

BATTLE WITH DERVISHES

London, Dec. 25.—The war office has received a dispatch from Major Sir Charles Egerton, dated Kerrit, Somaliland, Dec. 21, saying that 700 British and native troops had surprised 2,000 Dervishes at Jidballia, 38 miles east of Badwein. The engagement lasted three hours. The enemies' casualties were 80 killed and 100 wounded. The British loss was two men killed, four wounded and one missing.

RAILROAD HAZARDS.

Harrisburg, Dec. 24.—Hazards of railroad life are sharply emphasized in the annual report of Major I. E. Brown, secretary of the department of internal affairs, in which a parallel is drawn between the casualties among railroad employes of this state during the last year, and the Union losses upon some of the greatest battlefields of the civil war. The casualties on steam railroads in Pennsylvania for the year covered by the report, were 15,382. The combined figures for the steam and street railways show a greater number of casualties during the year "than occurred to the Union army in any one of the great battles of the civil war."

The figures of the street railways follow:

"During the year the number of passengers killed was 41, and injured 1,727; of the employes of these street railway corporations 21 were killed and 252 injured; of other persons, 165 were killed and 1,060 injured, making the total number of fatal accidents on the lines of these corporations 227, and the total number of non-fatal, 3,059."

In discussing the casualty figures reported by the various roads, Major Brown calls attention to the significant fact that there was a decrease in the number of employes injured last year as compared with the year before, of 3,512.

BEAUPRE COMING HOME.

New York, Dec. 24.—Cable reports from the interior of Colombia announce that United States Minister Beaupre, who is on his way to the coast from Bogota, bound for home on a vacation, has left Honda on the Magdalena steamer with a company of artillery as escort. The Colombian government sent the soldiers with him at his request. Hostile demonstrations are feared at River ports along the line. Mr. Beaupre is due at Cartagena Sunday.

Zanardelli's Death.

Rome, Dec. 28.—Thousands of telegrams of condolence have been received by the family of former Premier Zanardelli, who died Saturday, including one from King Victor Emmanuel in which his majesty said that Italy had lost one of her best sons, who had dedicated all of his life to promoting the greatness of his country. The king has decided that at the funeral of Zanardelli at Brussia, he will be represented by his cousin, the Count of Turin. The funeral will also be attended by Premier Gioletti and several members of the cabinet.

A Dante Portrait.

Rome, Dec. 26.—Professor Giovanni Livi, director of the state archives at Bologna, which town is the principal centre of Dante's fame, has found a parchment dated 1323, on which are two pen sketches representing "Dante crowned by Bologna." This discovery will prove of great interest to those who are searching for an authentic portrait of the poet.

England Recognizes Panama.

Panama, Dec. 25.—C. Mallett, the British consul, has officially informed the punta that he has received a cablegram from the British foreign office to the effect that Great Britain formally recognizes the republic of Panama.

McClellan Sworn In.

New York, Dec. 24.—Mayor-Elect George B. McClellan took the oath of office today. He also announced two appointments, John T. Oakley as commissioner of the department of water supply, gas and electricity; and George E. E. Best, commissioner of bridges. Mr. Oakley and Mr. Best are active members of Tammany Hall.

TRAINS IN COLLISION

Wreck Epidemic Reaches the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Fort Wayne, Ind., Dec. 29.—One man was killed, two were seriously injured, and sevtn others were more or less hurt in a head-on collision between Pennsylvania limited train No. 5, westbound, and an eastbound freight train at Larwill, thirty miles west of here, at 6 o'clock this morning. The dead man is James Raifsnyder, of Crestline, O., a baggageman. Those injured are T. Oliver Hebert, engineer of the limited, seriously; Elmer Stafford, fireman, of limited, seriously; H. C. Suttler, Norfolk, Neb., passenger; James Robison, colored porter; I. G. Betts, Chicago; William Hamilton, train barber; C. J. Fieldstock, colored porter; A. L. Hill, Jersey City, colored porter; John Hebert, son of Engineer Hebert, who was riding in the cab with his father.

The engine crew of the freight train escaped by jumping. The fact that Engineer Hebert was under orders to proceed with his train under control, owing to a bad stretch of track near Larwill, alone doubtless prevented serious loss of life, for the limited was late and otherwise would have been proceeding at terrific speed. The wreck was due to a mistake by Engineer Crowell, of the freight train in reading orders. He had been given orders to meet the limited at Larwill at 5:30, but misread his orders as 6:30, and was taking his time to make the meeting point. The tracks are blockaded and it will be several hours before the way is cleared.

A special train with a staff of surgeons was sent from here to the scene of the wreck. The injured were brought here on the relief train.

7,000 SHEEP ARE BURNED

Disastrous Shed Fire in Stock Yards in Buffalo.

Buffalo, Dec. 29.—Seven thousand sheep were burned to death at the East Buffalo stock yards last night. The long sheds in which they were confined were swept by the flames before any of the animals could be released. The loss is estimated at $75,000. It is stated by Superintendent Leigh that the fire would in no way interfere with the handling of live stock here. Plenty of space is available in the cattle and hog sheds to house the sheep arrivals.

The sheep were housed in long sheds 100 feet wide, covering an area of 5,000 square feet. Running parallel with them were the hog and cattle sheds. The fire, fanned by a brisk wind, destroyed the two buildings in an incredibly short time. The sheep destroyed were "exports" and were in charge of federal officers.

WEDS BRITISH OFFICER

Miss Drega, of Chicago, the Bride of Capt. James.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—The wedding of Miss Louise Drega to Capt. Ralph H. James, of England, here today, is one of

MISS LOUISE DREGA.

the smartest events of the social season in Chicago. Miss Drega is prominent in society in several American cities.

TROUBLE FOR DOWIE.

Chicago, Dec. 24.—Further legal troubles for John Alexander Dowie were started today when a petition was filed in the United States District court, asking for permission to start suits against Dowie in the state court, while bankruptcy proceedings are still pending. The attorney who filed the petition and who represents a number of creditors, gave as a reason the belief that Dowie is to leave the jurisdiction of the court December 27, on a trip to Australia. Judge Kohlsaat intimated he would not object to the starting of suits in the state court, but expressed a desire that Dowie's counsel be advised and given a chance to appear in court.

A Light Shock.

Ogdensburg, N. Y., Dec. 26.—A distict earhquake shock was felt throughout this city last night. Telephone reports show that it was noticed all through St. Lawrence county, being severest along the St. Lawrence valley. Buildings trembled violently at Madisonville, 16 miles north of here.

The earthquake was accompanied by a noise resembling thunder, which was sufficiently loud to awaken people.

Major McDowell Dead.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Major Malcolm McDowell, widely known as an iron and steel expert, is dead at the age of 75 years. He was the youngest brother of the late Major General Irving McDowell, who commanded the federal troops at the first battle of Bull Run. Major McDowell was aide-de-camp on his brother's staff during that battle. Deceased was an intimate friend of Generals Grant, Sherman and Logan and of President Rutherford B. Hayes.

Without a Speech.

Iowa City, Ia., Dec. 26.—Alive and healthy, although without a spleen, is the remarkable lot of Miss Olive Smith, of Kinross, Iowa, who has visited the University of Iowa hospital and reported to Dr. William Jepson, of the chair of surgery. Months ago Dr. Jepson removed Miss Smith's spleen and the report will be told to the American Association of Surgeons in Denver next week.

Coal Mines Resume.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 28.—Work was resumed at all the Delaware and Hudson company's collieries today and will be continued until Friday when there will be a two days' suspension. The Ontario and Western company started up its washeries today and all of the individual operators resumed mining.

Over Niagara.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Dec. 29.—A boat containing a man, was seen passing down the river and over the Horseshoe Falls. The identity of the ill-fated boatman is not known.

VITAL POINT JAPAN WOULD SEIZE IN CASE OF WAR

A GENERAL VIEW OF THE HARBOR, FUSAN, COREA. FROM THE KING

SKETCH MAP OF COREA AND JAPAN

If hostilities should break out between Russia and Japan, the immediate seizure of Masampho by the latter may be expected. This town, from a strategic point of view, is more important than Yongampho, a mere village at the mouth of the Yalu river, or than Chemulpo, the port of the capital, and is, in fact, the most important place in Corea. It is a small town of about 400 houses, at the foot of a high range of hills, and within a few miles of Fusan, one of the best and biggest ports.

It will be seen by a glance at the map, Masampho absolutely commands the approaches from Japan to Corea, and lies between the two great Russian stations of Vladivostock and Port Arthur. With it in the hands of Japan, communication between Port Arthur and Vladivostock might be cut in time of war. In the hands of Russia it might be used as a formidable base against Japan, whose nearest port is only about 200 miles distant.

GOVERNMENT'S FINAL REPORT

Shows Corn Yield of This Country to Have Been 2,244,176,925 Bu.

Washington, Dec. 29.—Final returns to the chief of the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture, from regular and special correspondents, supplemented by reports of special field agents, show the acreage, production and value of the principal farm crops of the United States in 1903 to have been as follows:

Crops—	Acreage.	Production.	Farm value Dec.1,1903
Corn	88,091,993	2,244,176,925	$952,868,801
Wheat	32,510,510	399,867,250	286,242,849
Spg. wheat	20,264,457	237,954,585	156,781,977
Oats	27,638,126	784,094,199	267,661,665
Barley	4,993,337	131,861,391	60,166,313
Rye	1,906,894	29, 363,416	15,993,871
Buckwheat	804,394	14,243,644	8,650,733
Flaxseed	3,238,229	27,200,510	22,291,557
Potatoes	2,916,855	247,127,880	151,638,094
Hay	39,933,759	*61,305,940	556,376,880
Tobacco	1,037,735	*815,972,425	55,514,627

* Tons. ° Pounds.

The Grain Markets.

Toledo, Dec. 29.—Close.—A dull trade, coupled with realizing on all bulges and heavy receipts, gave wheat prices today an easier tone on the close, unchanged to ¼c lower. Foreigners took a little wheat late in the session. New York reporting six loads taken at the seaboard, while a Minneapolis view reported 100,000 barrels of flour sold to Japan. The sharp loss in New York December, from 95c, the highest point of the day, to 91¾c, also influenced traders. An easier feeling was apparent in nearly all of the outside markets, opening wheat prices today were irregular, firm and ¼c up for cash and December to ⅛@¼c lower for May and July. Firm cables, Liverpool corn ¼@¾d higher and a continuation of war talk, coupled with the final government crop figures, which are regarded as bullish, caused a better feeling early and the weak options recovered the opening losses, while December and cash held firm. Trade ruled generally quiet. Weather conditions continue favorable for the movement of grains, although the southwest is still without the needed moisture. The map this morning showed light snows in Manitoba, Minnesota, Iowa and Illinois. There was no precipitation in Kansas, Nebraska or Missouri. Temperatures were seasonable. There is no snow covering in Nebraska, Kansas or southern Illinois, and only a light covering in Ohio. Receipts both in the northwest and southwest today were heavy. The northwest received 500 cars, against 624 a week ago and 275 a year ago; southwest, 669,000 bushels, against 541,000 and 120,800.

Primary receipts were large, 1,283,911 bushels today, against 1,077,000 a week ago, and 487,500 a year ago; shipments, 449,555, against 335,000 and 253,500.

Corn closed firm, unchanged to ¼c higher. A good export business which developed during the latter hours of the session helped prices. New York reported 12 loads taken at the seaboard. Primary receipts today were 811,770 bushels, against 947,000 a week ago, and 803,500 a year ago; shipments, 282,200, against 185,000 and 416,000.

Firm cables and the poor grading of corn, notwithstanding the heavy movement, coupled with the better feeling in the outside markets gave opening corn prices a firm tone, unchanged to ¼c over yesterday. Trade was quiet during the morning, but prices held steady and were about unchanged from the opening at noon. Weather conditions were favorable for the movement and curing.

Oats closed steady, unchanged to ¼c lower. Trade was quiet but the market was influenced by wheat.

Oats opened steady, unchanged to ¼c lower. Trade was quite early, but the market followed the advance in wheat and the opening loss in May was recovered during the morning. The market was without news features.

Clover seed opened irregular today, 2¼c lower for cash and December to 2½@5c up for the futures. Trade was rather quiet, but the opening losses in the cash options were recovered during the morning on a moderate buying. Receipts today were light, 360 bags, against 650 a year ago; shipments, none, against 800.

Following the recovery further buying caused an advance of 2½c all around and the close was strong at the high figures of the day.

TOLEDO.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Jan 28.	Close Jan 29.
Wheat—					
Cash	.90	90	89½	89½	89½
Dec.	.90	90	89½	89½	89½
May	.87⅝	87⅝	87½	87½	87⅝
July	.82	82¾	82	82	82¼
Corn—					
Cash	....	....	....	47½	47½
Dec.	.47½	....	....	47½	47½
May	.45⅝	46	45⅝	45⅝	45⅝
Oats—					
Cash	....	....	....	38	38
Dec.	.37½	38	37½	38	38
May	.38¾	....	....	38¾	38¾
Clover Seed—					
Cash	$6.95	$6.95	$6.90	$6.95	$6.92½
Dec.	6.90	6.95	6.90	6.95	6.92½
Jan.	6.95	....	....	6.95	6.92½
Feb.	7.02½	7.02½	7.00	7.00	6.97½
March	7.05	....	....	7.05	7.02½

Rye—No. 2, 53c.
Timothy—Prime, $1.40.
Alsike—Prime, $6.60.

CHICAGO.

Wheat—					
Dec	81¼	81⅝	81¼	81⅝	81⅝
May	84⅝	84⅝	84	84⅝	84⅝
July	78⅝	79	78⅝	78⅝	78⅝
Corn—					
Dec	41⅜	42	41⅛	41⅛	41⅜
May	45	45⅜	44⅞	44⅞	45⅛
July	44⅝	44⅝	44⅜	44⅜	44⅜
Oats—					
Dec	35¼	35¼	35	35	35
May	37⅜	37⅜	37⅛	37⅛	37⅜
July	35	35	34⅝	34⅝	35

NEW YORK.

Wheat—					
Dec	94⅜	94⅝	91⅜	91⅝	91⅞
May	87⅝	87½	87	87½	87½
July	83⅜	83½	83¼	83¼	83⅜
Corn—					
Dec	52½	....	....	53½	53
May	51⅛	51¼	51	51	51

ST. LOUIS.

Wheat—					
Dec	92½	92½	92	92	92½
May	82¾	82¾	82	82	82¾
July	77	77	76¾	76¾	77

MINNEAPOLIS.

Wheat—					
Dec	....	....	....	83¾	83¾
May	....	....	....	82	82¾

DULUTH.

Wheat—					
Dec	....	....	....	80¾	80¾
May	....	....	....	83¼	83¼

CHICAGO PROVISIONS.

Pork—					
Jan	$12.22	$12.22	$12.07	$12.07	$12.20
May	12.55	12.62	12.45	12.47	12.55
Lard—					
Jan	$6.67	$6.70	$6.62	$6.62	$6.72
May	6.90	6.92	6.80	6.80	6.92
Ribs—					
Jan	$6.30	$6.30	$6.22	$6.22	$6.30
May	6.60	6.60	6.52	6.52	6.60

Money and Stocks.

New York, Dec. 29.—The stock market opened active and irregular partly due to the depression reflected from London and partly to realizing on yesterday's advances, but the majority of stocks were higher. Missouri Pacific advanced a point, St. Paul ¾, and Amalgamated Copper on running sales of 4,600 shares ⅝.

The market soon overcame the hesitancy caused by the profittaking sales of the room traders, and bounded strongly upward. Amalgamated was conspicuous feature, selling up 1⅞ to 5. an active buying. The electric stocks were again taken freely, Westinghouse rising 3½ and General Electric 3. Other gains of note included 2½ in Pressed Steel Car; 2 in Realty preferred and Colorado Fuel and 1 to 1¼ in St. Paul, Northwestern, Rock Island preferred and in a sprinkling of the low priced railroads and specialties. Distilling company preferred rose 12 points on one transaction and St. Joseph & Grand Island second preferred declined 3. Heavy realizing made inroads upon prices but the market steadied again and became dull.

The market was active and somewhat higher, specialties making wide advances, but the mov